

of a tenure under sections 12 to 17 of the Bill; and the practical effect will also be that they will come under the provisions of the Incumbrance chapter (XV) of the Bill, which declares that all 'tenures' shall be sold subject to their incumbrances, and that the ordinary occupancy-holding should be sold subject to the voiding of such incumbrances. As long as a transferor or transferee can set up a presumption, it will lead to litigation and loss to the landlord. It will compel the landlord either directly or impliedly by accepting the fee to admit the right, or compel him to contest it at once. My object is to avoid that. By bringing holdings at fixed rates, where the title to hold at fixed rates is admitted or decreed, under the operation of the Incumbrance chapter no harm will be done. But where the title is disputed you allow the judgment-debtor by setting up the presumption to attempt to set aside a sale on the ground that his holding is a holding at fixed rates and not an ordinary occupancy-holding, that it should have been sold subject to its incumbrances and not with power to void them. Section 287 of the Civil Procedure Code lays down the rule that where a holding or any property is sold all material information should be submitted to the Court; and where a landlord sells up a holding without saying at once that it is a holding at a fixed rent he withholds information which to all intents and purposes it is material that the Court should know; where for instance a holding at a fixed rate of rent is sold as an ordinary holding, the judgment-debtor will have the right to have the sale set aside. Some words fell from the Hon'ble Mr. Reynolds with reference to tenures in Shahabad. I am opposed to the section under which the 20 years' presumption is allowed, but I have no hope of altering it after the declaration which has been made; therefore I must assume that that section holds good in the Bill. If the Council would refer to the Administration Report of the Bengal Government for 1883-84, it will be found that the Government admit that under the provisions of that section *guzáshtadári* tenures are increasing, and that rights are being acquired under it; and I maintain those who are acquiring those rights never had any right to acquire such under any law, and if the provision is maintained in its entirety the consequences will be litigation and ruin to the *zamíndár*. With reference to the words I propose should be added to the section, I maintain no distinction should be made between occupancy-tenants; that the fact of an occupancy-tenant having acquired a right to hold at fixed rates should not give him a right to hold his land in a manner not permitted to the ordinary occupancy-*raiyat*; that the purpose for which he acquired the land should alone be taken into consideration; that no tenant, whether holding at a fixed rent or otherwise, has a right to use his land in such a manner as to render it unfit for the purpose of the tenancy. He should not be allowed to use it for building purposes or other purposes not contemplated when the land was made over to him. The section, as it stands, will allow him to destroy it with impunity."

The Hon'ble Mr. REYNOLDS said:—"I cannot help thinking that the hon'ble member has somewhat overlooked the wording of the section. The section refers to *raiyats* with fixed rates of rent in perpetuity, but he seemed to understand it to extend to every *raiyat* who might choose to set up a claim to hold at such rates. I cannot see that that is at all the meaning of the section. The amendment would confine the right of transfer to those who hold under *mukarrari* leases or judicially declared titles. If this change were made it would have the effect of excluding those who, if their titles were tried, would be found entitled to hold at fixed rents under this section; and by excluding them it will place them in a worse position than they occupy now—in a position to which the Act should not reduce them. There is a very large number of *raiyats* who practically hold at fixed rates of rent, but whose title has never been tried, because they have not been taken into Court, and whose rights have not been questioned, because they have been tacitly acknowledged. But the amendment really goes very far to bring these men down to the status of mere occupancy-*raiyats*. Therefore, so far from checking litigation, the amendment would more probably have the effect of promoting it. It is no doubt quite true that in cases of transfers of holdings where there is a doubt as to the character of the occupancy the right to hold at fixed rates

will be claimed, and that the landlord will dispute the claim, and thus the question will be raised; but I think it would be better that such questions should be raised and decided. Then, with regard to the second part of the amendment. I should be sorry to see the words introduced, because I understand that the recognized status of a raiyat holding at fixed rates of rent is for all practical purposes that of a tenure-holder and not of a raiyat. You may trust him perfectly well not to use the land in such a manner as to render it unfit for the purposes of the tenancy. His interest is very much against his doing so. He may use it for a purpose incompatible with the purpose for which it was let to him, but I really do not see why we should interfere so long as the security for the rent is not endangered. If the hon'ble member had worded the amendment so as to show that it is the duty of a tenant at fixed rates of rent to use his land so as not to injure the landholder's security for his rent, although I should consider the amendment to be unnecessary, I should not have objected to it. But as the amendment stands the clause would have the effect of harassing and molesting the tenant, and I therefore trust the Council will not accept it."

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY said:—"I shall be very glad to leave the defence of this section in the excellent hands of my hon'ble friend Mr. Reynolds, for when this proposal was first made I voted with the Hon'ble Mr. Gibbon in the minority. The question was very fully considered by the Committee, and the opinion of the majority was that which has been just explained by the Hon'ble Mr. Reynolds. They thought it would do more harm than good to divide tenants at fixed rates of rents into two classes—one which had documentary proof of its title, and the other the proof of whose title had not been submitted to the Courts. It was thought that whatever difficulties there might be in the way of ascertaining what the various rights were, though they may be brought to the front by the new law, yet they exist no less really at present under the old law, and a proposal such as this would have the effect of further weakening the rights of those who are least able to prove their rights. The Select Committee having arrived at this conclusion last year, and having again adhered to it this year, I am not willing to ask the Council to swerve from it."

The amendment was put and negatived.

The Hon'ble the MAHARAJÁ OF DURBHUNGA by leave withdrew the following amendments:—

That in section 20, sub-section (1), line 1, for the word "person" the words "resident cultivator" be substituted.

That to sub-section (4) of the same section, the words "when the landlord has recognized such joint tenancy" be added.

That for the word "co-sharer", wherever it occurs in the sub-section, the words "member of a joint undivided family" be substituted.

That sub-section (7) of the same section be omitted.

The Hon'ble BĀBŪ PEĀRĪ MOHAN MUKERJĪ moved that sub-section 7) of section 20 be omitted. He said:—"Contrary to all rules of evidence, it places the burden of proof on the wrong party. When the question is whether a raiyat has been in possession of land in a village for twelve years, he is the proper person to prove his allegation by the production of his rent-receipts. His landlord, if an auction-purchaser, would have no means of proving the negative and rebutting the presumption which the law will raise in favour of the raiyat. Even if he be not an auction-purchaser, his difficulty would frequently be great. His collection-papers alone would be wholly insufficient to rebut the presumption. They are at best only corroborative evidence. It is on the evidence of his gumáshta or collecting agent that he must rely in such case, but it is well known that in no class of servants are there greater changes by dismissal and otherwise than in the collecting agency of landholders. The

landholders would, therefore, be virtually unable in most cases to rebut the presumption, although it be contrary to fact."

The Hon'ble MR. QUINTON said :—"The hon'ble member began his speech with the enunciation of the very general proposition that nothing would be easier than for the raiyat to prove possession for 12 years. It would be in the recollection of the Council that in the debate on the introduction of the Bill the Hon'ble Mr. Evans used some very striking arguments to show that it would be utterly impossible for the bulk of the raiyats to prove 12 years' possession. He quoted a letter from a zamíndár stating that the occupancy-right of the raiyat was a moral right, but it was only a moral right; therefore, I think the statement of the hon'ble mover of the amendment as to the extent to which the raiyats can prove their claims must be taken with great caution. On the one hand, we know that the bulk of the raiyats had a right of occupancy. Our lamented colleague, the late Hon'ble Kristodás Pál, distinctly admitted that 90 per cent. of the raiyats possessed the right of occupancy. On the other hand, the Council had heard from the Hon'ble Mr. Evans that most of these men were unable to prove the right they possessed. Unless it was shown that a man had not been in possession for 12 years, it should be presumed against the landlord that he had held for 12 years. It was very distinctly stated by the hon'ble member in charge in his introductory speech that this was quite in accordance with the facts. But the hon'ble mover of the amendment asserted that this section threw on the zamíndárs a burden which they were unable to discharge, inasmuch as it would require them to prove a negative. He assumed that every tenant in Bengal got rent-receipts, which he preserved. I doubt whether all raiyats do get receipts for the rents which they pay, and, if they did, they are not in the habit of preserving papers. He assumes that an ignorant raiyat, who pays a yearly rent of Rs. 5, is in a position to prove facts which his zamíndár, who has an office connected with his zamíndári, is unable to prove. That seems to me a very bold assumption to make. Moreover, the zamíndár has not to prove that the raiyat has not been in possession for 12 years; he has only to prove that he came into possession within the last 12 years, which his records would easily enable him to do. As to the argument brought forward with respect to auction-purchasers, when we come to deal with the rights of millions of raiyats, I do not think the question of some hundreds or thousands of auction-purchasers not being able to ascertain who are, or who are not, occupancy-raiyats should be allowed to weigh against the rights of the whole body of raiyats. I must therefore vote against the amendment."

The Hon'ble MR. EVANS said :—"I would refer to the remarks I made on the subject when the Bill was referred to the Select Committee. There is no doubt that the rule as 'onus' of proof should not be altered without some good reason, but there are very many cases in which the special rules had been introduced by Courts of Equity, such, for instance, as the case of young men of expectations dealing with money-lenders with regard to reversions. When Courts of Equity have found it impossible to do justice without reversing the rules of presumption, they have shifted the burden of proof; therefore, although it is undesirable to reverse the rule in ordinary cases, I cannot admit that to do so is necessarily wrong. Now, with regard to the general position of the raiyats, they are not in a position to meet the cost of litigation. They are very ignorant, and are not able to obtain competent legal advice; they have no means to prove their possession of a particular plot for 12 consecutive years beyond the oaths of a few of their neighbours; and mere oral evidence of that class is worth very little. With regard to the zamíndárs, they have far better evidence available. They can give the direct oral testimony of their gumáshtas and zamíndári servants, and what their agents depose to could be corroborated by carefully preserved collection-papers in their sheristas. This includes measurement-papers, showing the plots and boundaries, the jamá-wasil-báki papers, showing the areas and the rents the raiyats paid, and so on; and there is no doubt that the possession of such records renders the proof comparatively easy. It was said that the raiyat on his part might produce

rent-receipts; but, apart from the fact pointed out by the Hon'ble Mr. Quinton that in many cases the raiyat does not get receipts, where he does get them, their value is next to nothing, because nothing whatever is stated in them except the name of the raiyat and the payments made, without any reference to the land which he holds; therefore he is not in a position to prove his statement that he held a particular piece of land for a particular period by rent-receipts. The point on which the presumption was to arise was very narrow. It was at first proposed that there should be a general presumption that the raiyat is an occupancy-raiyat, but it was pointed out that that would require the landlord to rebut a very large number of possible circumstances; that the raiyat would not have to disclose what it was in respect of which he made his claim; and that the landlord would have to disprove his claim in respect to every cottah of land in that village for the last 12 years. And, had the word 'estate' been put in and the presumption made applicable to the estate, the result would have been no doubt ridiculous, and the clause would have deserved the strictures which the learned Chief Justice had passed on it. The presumption had therefore been carefully limited to the particular piece of land in dispute. When he showed that he held that particular plot as a raiyat, it would be presumed as between him and the person to whom he paid rent for it that he held that land or some part of it for 12 years. Now, who was the person who could best prove whether the raiyat held a particular piece of land for 12 years? I say certainly the zamindar with his records, if properly kept, could easily show that. The man who had records and the means of proof should be obliged to produce the proofs in such cases. As a matter of fact the bulk of the cultivators were permanent cultivators and cultivated the same lands year after year, and it was not a violent thing to say that they should be presumed to have held their land for 12 years, until the contrary was shown. That being so, and admitting a certain amount of hardship with regard to the auction-purchaser, it was thought that some remedy of this kind was desirable to give real effect to the occupancy-right. Unless the auction-purchaser gets the village-papers from the old proprietor, which very generally he is unable to get, he is unable to find out what the raiyats' rents were, and he is obliged to apply to the Collector to have a measurement, to make a record of what the rents are. No doubt, there are not the same reasons for throwing the onus on the auction-purchaser to disprove the existence of occupancy-rights. But the auction-purchaser has always been beset by difficulties of proof, and unless a particular exception be inserted for his security I do not see that he would have any other remedy than what he now possessed, and which this Bill gives him in a more workable form, namely, to apply to the Collector for a measurement and record-of-rights. And I admit that this presumption will operate somewhat hardly upon him; but he is a speculative purchaser, who buys with full knowledge of his position, and has many advantages in other ways and considers the advantages and disadvantages, and regulates his bids accordingly."

The Hon'ble Mr. GOODRICH opposed the amendment.

The Hon'ble RAO SAHEB VISHVANATHA NARAYAN MANDLIK said:—"I think the amendment is a proper one. The presumption created by the Bill is a new presumption, and Mr. Justice Field has in the minute before the Council said he could not conceive anything more dangerous than the presumption it is proposed to create. Mr. Dampier, formerly a Member of the Board of Revenue, has said that, on the whole, he would reject the presumption created by the Bill, and Mr. Field says that the effect of section 26 (2) taken with section 25 would be in a very short time to transfer the real ownership of the land from the zamindar to the raiyat. With regard to auction-purchasers it was quite the other way."

The Hon'ble Mr. REYNOLDS said:—"I cannot support the amendment. After the speech which the Council has heard from the Hon'ble Mr. Evans, I was somewhat surprised to hear the last speaker say that the presumption is a wrong one

to make. I venture to think that Mr. Field has not correctly apprehended the purport of the section. The presumption seems to me a perfectly reasonable one to make, because it is in accordance with the evidence, and cannot be said to shift the burden of proof to the wrong party. The raiyat has not the means of proof; he does not, as a rule, get receipts for rent, and when he gets them he does not keep them. This is a case in which the raiyat needs the protection which this clause gives him, and the interests of the small class of auction-purchasers cannot be considered against the interests of the very large body of raiyats. Where a record-of-rights has been established—and the Government of Bengal hope to establish it throughout Behar in the course of a few years—the presumption will not be necessary. The village-records will afford conclusive evidence on the point. But, till such a record is established, I think this presumption is suitable to the circumstances of the case."

The Hon'ble Mr. HUNTER said:—"I also think the presumption is in accordance with the facts. A vast majority of raiyats at present enjoy the occupancy-right. It is admitted on the part of the zamíndárs that nine-tenths of the raiyats of Lower Bengal and Behar possess that right; I think, therefore, that to give this presumption merely places the law in accord with the actual state of things in the provinces to which this Bill will apply."

The Hon'ble MR. AMIR ALI said:—"My hon'ble friend Mr. Evans has clearly pointed out the reasons for the retention of this presumption. But I entertain such a strong conviction regarding this question of principle, that I desire to say a few words to supplement the remarks which have fallen from the Hon'ble Mr. Evans. It seems to me that the argument which the hon'ble mover of the amendment has brought forward regarding the ability of the raiyat to establish his status can hardly be intended to be accepted seriously by this Council. Any one who has seen the receipts which are given to these raiyats will know exactly the situation in which these men are placed. Your Excellency has already heard what particulars are generally contained in these receipts, and the Council can easily imagine from these circumstances whether the raiyat is in a position to establish the fact which he is required to prove. The landlord has the jamá-wásil-báki, the jamábandi and other village-papers in his hands to establish his allegations. It has been stated that the zamíndár's ámlá are frequently changed. It may be so in some cases; but it seems to me that very little force is to be attached to that portion of the argument. When one considers that not only are the zamíndári records in possession of the landlord, not only are the papers of the gumáshta and other officials under his control, but that the raiyats are, from the helplessness of their position, absolutely unable to produce any satisfactory evidence, one feels that the presumption in question is based on considerations of justice and expediency. When one considers that the great bulk of raiyats are utterly ignorant of their own rights, illiterate, and unable to know the nature of the receipts which are given to them, it seems to me that to call on them to prove their position and rights is to ask them to do something which they cannot possibly do. This is only a presumption, and, if the evidence on the other side establishes a *prima facie* case that the raiyat does not possess the status in dispute, the onus will of course then be cast on the raiyat to establish his case. It can hardly be said that this is a perversion of justice and of every right principle to give this fair and just presumption to the raiyat. I therefore oppose the amendment."

The Hon'ble MR. GIBBON said:—"It has been admitted by hon'ble members of this Council that before we change the law we must prove the necessity for so doing, and we have the high authority of the Chief Justice for saying that in providing this presumption we are making a very great change in the present law, and I deny that its necessity has been proved. It has been stated that although we are changing the law we are making this provision in the Bill in accordance with facts. The Hon'ble Mr. Quinton has laid stress on the difficulties raiyats at present have under the present law in proving their occupancy-rights in their land; but he has omitted to make mention of the enormous changes we are making in the law under the Bill.

Under the present law the raiyat has to prove his right of occupancy in every piece of land he holds; if he has been shifted from field to field he must fail to prove his right; whereas under the Bill it is declared that if he has held any land for 12 years in a village he will have occupancy-rights in all the lands he may hold in the village. I deny that the necessity to change the law has been proved. It has been stated that the onus of proof should be cast on the person best able to prove the facts, and that the landlord is in a better position to rebut the presumption from his papers than the raiyat; but the jamābandi papers of the landlord show everything but the one thing required. They show the area of the holding and the rent annually payable, but they do not show, nor will they show in the future, how and when the raiyat acquired the land. It has been stated that the raiyats do not receive proper receipts to prove their rights, but on this point also we are changing the law. We are compelling the landlord to keep counterfoil books and are providing penalties for not granting proper receipts, and these receipts will in the future be sufficient evidence of the raiyat's rights. I deny that the case has been proved."

His Honour THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR said :—"I do not wish to prolong the discussion. It may be that the presumption is favorable to the great body of the raiyats in the country. But that there is nothing improper, irregular or anomalous in the presumption made in the Bill has been clearly shown by the arguments adduced by the Hon'ble Mr. Evans. With regard to the auction-purchaser there has always been a difficulty, but it seems to me that where a very large proportion of the raiyats are admitted to be raiyats with the right of occupancy, and where the number of auction-sales is infinitesimally small, there is no sufficient ground for a change in the rule. Further, it is beyond question that if the raiyat requires protection from any one it is from the auction-purchaser who comes in to try to make as much as he can out of the estate. On every ground I think the Council is right in maintaining this section."

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY said :—"After the exhaustive discussion which this subject has received, I do not wish to take up the time of the Council by any lengthy remarks. But I feel very strongly that a real necessity exists for this presumption, and I cannot pass by in silence the statement made by the Hon'ble Mr. Gibbon that the receipts which the raiyats receive are sufficient to enable him to prove the occupancy-right. They do not give the boundaries of the holding, and the objection which I have all along understood the hon'ble mover of the amendment has to the provision that the receipt should give the boundaries is evidence of the fact that at present receipts do not give boundaries: all that is stated in the receipt is the amount of money received and the time for which it has been received. I have always understood him to assert that this is sufficient. But he now says that the rent-receipts prove the raiyat's position; if so, then the receipts should give the boundaries. As an additional argument against throwing on landlords the burden of proof whether the raiyat has or has not held for 12 years we are told of the extraordinary rapidity with which the zamíndár's servants disappear; he says they seldom remain in service more than a few years; sometimes the servant dies, sometimes he is dismissed, sometimes he disappears. Now I do not understand that they are exposed to any unusual mortality, and if they are frequently dismissed it points to what is really at the bottom of most of the rent difficulties in the country, namely, that the zamíndárs entrust a most difficult and delicate duty to a class of men who are unfit, underpaid and dishonest. A reform in this respect would do the zamíndárs more good than any amount of legislation. I quite understand what the Hon'ble Mr. Gibbon says with regard to the inability of the zamíndár to prove when a raiyat comes in; still if a man has come within the last 12 years, there can be no difficulty in showing it. That will rebut the presumption, and there will be an end to it. But the hon'ble member says that the Bill before the Council provides for the grant of real and efficient receipts, and that this will do away with the necessity of the presumption. We are certainly trying to do so, but it is one thing to provide for this in a Bill; it is quite another to have it universally put in practice."

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT thought that, for the reasons stated by the

Hon'ble Mr. Evans, who spoke with intimate practical knowledge of the subject, the presumption ought to be given in the limited form proposed by the Bill. It had been already pointed out that the criticisms of the learned Chief Justice were based on a misapprehension of the scope and intention of the provision under criticism, and the weight of the arguments directed against it by the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Field was materially lessened by the omission of the word "estate".

The amendment was put and negatived.

The Hon'ble MR. REYNOLDS then moved that in sections 20 and 21, after the word "village", wherever it occurs, the word "estate" be added; also that after section 21 the following proviso be added:—

"Provided that, where an estate extends over more than one parganá, the estate shall be deemed to include only so much of the estate as is comprised in the parganá in which the land held by the raiyat is situated."

He said:—"This amendment is intended to restore, with some modification, a provision of the Bill which received the approval of the Secretary of State, which formed part of the Bill as introduced into this Council, and which, after full discussion by the Select Committee, was deliberately retained in the Bill as re-published last year. Throughout all these stages of the measure the principle was accepted that the occupancy-rights of the settled raiyat should extend over all lands held by him in the village or estate. So important did the Secretary of State consider this principle that he was careful to point out to the Government of India that its legislation must provide that the estate should remain unimpaired, and that the right should not be defeated by any sub-division of the estate. In other words, he intended the estate to be the entire estate as fixed at the Permanent Settlement, and nothing less. At the eleventh hour, and in my opinion most unfortunately, the Select Committee struck out the words relating to the estate and limited the right to the village alone.

"The grounds on which the majority of the Select Committee made this change were explained by the hon'ble member in charge of the Bill in the speech which he made at the beginning of this debate. The reasons may, I think, be fairly summarised under the following heads, — *first*, that the retention of 'the estate' is unfair to the landlord; *secondly*, that the prescriptive rights of khúdkhást raiyats never extended further than the village; and *thirdly*, that the change will not practically work any substantial injury to the raiyat.

"As to the first point, I must own I have little sympathy with the feeling which would restrict the growth of the occupancy-right in the interest of the landlord. The occupancy-right is nothing more than a right to pay regularly a fair and equitable rent; and I have not the least doubt that, in the long run, a proprietor would be the gainer by having every one of his tenants an occupancy-raiyat. But I am well aware that the landlords do not share this view, and I admit that it is reasonable that the landlord should have an opportunity of knowing something of his tenant, and that, if the privileges of a settled raiyat extended to the whole estate, cases might occasionally occur in which a proprietor might admit a tenant to occupation under the belief that he possessed no right of occupancy, and the tenant might then turn round upon him and claim a right of occupancy on the ground of his having previously held land in another village or tenure of the same estate, though under a different landlord. Such cases, I say, might occasionally happen; but the chance of their happening has been greatly exaggerated. They might happen on a few exceptionally large estates, such as the estates of the Maharájá of Burdwan or the Maharájá of Bettiah. But the hon'ble member in charge of the Bill spoke of raiyats acquiring occupancy-rights in villages of the same estate twenty miles apart, as if such cases were or could be at all common. But what are the real facts? Out of all the estates in these Provinces, 89 per cent. are petty estates of less than 500 acres, which is very little more than the average size of a village. In 89 cases out of 100, it is much the same thing to the landlord whether the estate or the village is declared to be the limit, though it is a very different thing, as I shall presently show, to

the tenant. I therefore hold that, if no middle course could be found, and it was necessary to choose between the village and the estate, the Select Committee ought to have adhered to the original Bill. In the vast majority of cases this would involve no possible hardship to the landlord; in the few remaining cases the hardship would be of the most infinitesimal kind—the hardship of the proprietor finding that he had got an occupancy-raiyat instead of a non-occupancy-raiyat for his tenant—a very good thing, in my opinion, for both the parties concerned.

“Secondly, it is urged that the village, and not the estate, was the limit of the old right of occupancy; and this is no doubt perfectly true. The khúdkhást raiyat was the cultivator of the lands of the village in which he lived. But to make this argument valid we ought to be able to restore the village as it existed at the time of the Permanent Settlement. But this we cannot do, and the Bill proposed to take the survey village, that is to say, the village as it existed 45 or 50 years after the settlement. But this is a totally different thing; and we have evidence to show that the survey village must comprise a much smaller area than the village over which the old occupancy-right extended. The increase in the numbers of the people, and the extension of cultivation, have led to a marvellous growth in the number of villages. The present number of villages in Bengal and Behar is by the latest returns 194,701; the number ten years ago, in 1874-75, was 142,339—an increase of more than 5,000 villages per annum. Unfortunately, we have not, so far as I know, any complete figures of the number of villages at the time of the Permanent Settlement. But, for a number of districts, we have the quinquennial papers filed by the zamíndárs under Regulation XLVIII of 1793 and Regulation VIII of 1800; and, in a few cases, it so happened that these papers give the number of villages in some parganá of six districts of Bengal and Behar. I have referred to these papers and have compared the number of villages with the number ascertained at the survey, nearly 50 years later. The general result is that, except in a few cases, in which the quinquennial papers show kismuts or hamlets as separate villages, the survey villages show a large increase of number. Thus, in parganá Mehar, in Patna, the quinquennial papers give 264 villages; the survey found 331. In parganá Moonair, in the same district, the quinquennial register shows 53; the survey shows 321. In parganá Sasseram, in Shahabad, the quinquennial number of villages is 896; the survey number is 1,328. In parganá Jellamootta, in Midnapur, the respective numbers are 141 and 174. I do not wish to attach undue value to these quinquennial registers. They are merely papers filed by the zamíndárs, and they possess no definite authority. But on this point they furnish the best information I have been able to obtain as to the state of things 80 years ago; and this information leads us to what was *a priori* a probable conclusion, that the number of villages at the time of the survey was considerably greater than the number at the time of the settlement, and that, consequently, to give the settled raiyat occupancy-rights over the survey village is by no means to replace him in his old position in which his rights extended over the village as it existed in former times.

“Thirdly, it is contended that the rule laid down in the Bill can work no practical injury to the raiyat. If I were once satisfied on this point, I should not care to trouble the Council further on the question. But it is just because it seems to me that there is a real danger in this matter to the raiyat, that I am anxious to press the acceptance of this amendment on the Council. The landlords are impressed, I can hardly say why, with what I can only describe as a morbid horror of any extension of the right of occupancy; there is no device to which they will not have recourse to prevent its accrual, or to destroy it where it exists. It is the duty of the Council to see that the principle which the Bill lays down is not expressed in such language as to allow of its being defeated or evaded by acts which contravene its spirit. The hon’ble member in charge of the Bill admitted that this might occur in exceptional instances in which a landlord had several villages in his own direct management within reach of the cultivator’s residence, but he contended that the number of landlords in that position is very small, and that very few tenants could be affected by it.

" But this inadequately represents the extent of the danger. It is not at all necessary that the landlord should have several villages under his own direct management. It is true that the area of the average village does not greatly differ from the area of the average estate, but it does not follow that the boundaries of the estate and of the village will coincide. The cases are extremely numerous in which an estate or a tenure lies partly in one village and partly in another. In all these cases, tenants whose holdings lie anywhere near the village boundary will be harassed and molested with the object of driving them across the line and thus breaking down their occupancy-rights, and non-occupancy-tenants will in the same way be shifted about in order to prevent the accrual of the right.

" This is a real and very serious danger, and the case which it represents is by no means exceptional. The landlords who could exercise such oppression might be reckoned by the thousand, and their tenants by the ten thousand. I therefore think that the Government of Bengal would have been justified in asking the Council to restore the wording of the original Bill. But I have already admitted that there are some large estates in which it would be unreasonable to require that the right of occupancy should extend over the whole estate. The Government of Bengal has therefore considered whether any middle course can be found, and any plan devised which would obviate the danger to which I have referred, without leaving the landlords any reasonable ground of complaint. Such a middle course will, I believe, be found by restoring the old definition, but at the same time limiting it by declaring that where the estate consists of more than one parganá the occupancy-right of the tenant shall not extend beyond that parganá in which his holding is situated. This accordingly is the amendment which I now ask the Council to accept. The parganá or fiscal circle is a definite and well-known area. For the purposes of this section it seems better than the tháná or the sub-division, as its boundaries are fixed and unalterable, and there is no doubt or difficulty in determining to what parganá a given piece of land belongs. The average parganá is no doubt larger than the average estate, but it is not the average estate which we have to consider in dealing with this question. In an average estate—an estate below 500 acres—there would be no hardship to the landlord in saying that the occupancy-right shall extend throughout the estate, as in such an estate the landlord might fairly be presumed to be able to know all his tenants. What we have to consider is the exceptionally large estate, and such estates extend over many parganás, and in some cases over more than one district. For such cases it seems to me that the parganá limit will fairly and sufficiently provide.

" I need not remind the Council of the historical association of the parganá with questions of tenancy and rent. The existence of the parganá as a fiscal unit was recognized in the old law which made the established rates of the parganá the rates at which pattás were to be granted to the raiyats. The parganá has as real an existence and as definite an area now as it had then. The records of the Survey Department and of the Boundary Commissioner's Office will supply the Courts with a secure guide in the application of the rule if the Council should think fit to adopt it. I think, therefore, that I may, with some confidence, ask the Council to agree to this amendment. It has been my object to show that the limitation of the occupancy-right to the village will not replace the raiyat in his old position, and will not ensure him that reasonable fixity of tenure which is intended to be given him by the Bill; whereas the extension of the rights to the estate limited by the boundary of the parganá will save the raiyat from being (in the old words of the Court of Directors) 'improperly disturbed in his possession', and at the same time will not involve consequences unfair to the landlords."

The Hon'ble MR. EVANS said :—" I do not intend to take up much time, having already made some remarks on this question when speaking on the motion for the consideration of the Select Committee's report, but there were certain points in the remarks made by the hon'ble mover of the amendment with regard to which I should like to say a few words. The first point is the

arbitrary selection of the revenue unit called an 'estate' as the area within which the raiyat is to have rights of occupancy.

"It is admitted that estates are sub-divided, to a very large extent, into permanent under-tenures, and that there is no kind of connection between the raiyats of one village in one under-tenure in the estate and the raiyats in another village in the same estate situated in another under-tenure, nor between their respective landlords, the under-tenure-holders. I could have understood his argument had he proposed to give a raiyat the occupancy-right in a whole parganá. But when we come to see that the parganá has nothing to do with the particular revenue unit which pays revenue to Government, and that one tenure-holder has nothing to do with another tenure-holder, it is difficult to find any principle in it. Then the hon'ble member has pointed out that estates very often are not bigger than the village area; but he also points out that though, as a rule, the size of an average estate is that of an average village, yet there is no sort of connection between an estate and a village. But he seemed to justify the extension of the occupancy-right to a larger area because there are more villages now than there were at the time of the Permanent Settlement, and that the village of that time was much larger than the village of the present day. The fact that at the time of the Permanent Settlement one-third or two-thirds of the land was waste explains to a great extent the larger number of villages. But if he means it to be understood that the whole area of Bengal was covered with occupancy-rights, I say it was not so; because the large waste lands, large forests and great jungles which existed without any cultivation were not subject to any occupancy-right until reclaimed. Some of the village areas included waste lands, but there were other very large tracts of waste lands which were not included in any village area. Then, with regard to the necessity for the amendment, my hon'ble friend starts by saying that landlords have a morbid horror of the occupancy-right. But I may fairly observe that there are some persons who have a morbid horror of landlords and desire to erect unnecessary fences against imaginary dangers. I think that it is not practicable on any large scale to move raiyats from one village to another; that there are often feuds between neighbouring villages; and even where they are on friendly terms, the raiyat would still be a stranger in the village to which he is shifted. Where he is a permanent cultivator shifted from one plot to another in the same village it is different. I do not think, considering what we have done for the occupancy-raiyat, there is now real danger of his being deprived of his right to any large extent. The hon'ble member has, however, urged that the introduction of the word 'estate' had the approval of the Secretary of State. I regard with great deference any opinion expressed by so high an authority; but it is far from clear that the Secretary of State even had this scheme under his consideration or used the word 'estate' in this sense. I am strongly of opinion that with the introduction of the word 'estate' the Bill will be going to an entirely unnecessary length and adopting an unsound and novel principle. The khúdkhást raiyat's right only extended to the village of which he was a resident. I grant that the area of the village in the time of the Permanent Settlement might have been of larger extent than villages of the survey. But that change and the disintegration of village communities has been met by making permanence of cultivation instead of residence the qualification for the acquisition of right of occupancy. If my hon'ble friend insists that the right of the khúdkhást raiyat extended over a large area, then let him confine the occupancy-right to the resident raiyat. Having recognized the difference between the position of the khúdkhást raiyat of the time of the Permanent Settlement and the position of the occupancy-raiyat of the present day owing to changed circumstances, the Select Committee have, by giving the raiyat the occupancy-right wherever he has permanent cultivation, done a great deal; and I think that there is no necessity for going further."

The Hon'ble BĀBŪ PEĀRÍ MOHAN MUKERJĪ said :—"I strongly oppose the proposal to introduce the word 'estate' in sections 20 and 21 of the Bill, and I think the proviso which the hon'ble mover wishes the Council to insert in

section 21 will not at all remove the strong objections which I entertain to this amendment. As has been just remarked by the Hon'ble Mr. Evans, it is often the case that some villages of an estate are let out in *patni* and other tenures, and therefore, if a right of occupancy, which is acquired in a village, is extended to the estate in which the village is situated, it will create very great difficulties; and it will, as has been observed by the hon'ble member in charge of the Bill, make the objections to the presumption in section 20 much more valid. On these grounds, coupled with the reasons adduced by the preceding speaker in exposing the fallacies which underlie the arguments which have been adduced in support of the motion, I think the amendment should be rejected."

The Hon'ble Mr. HUNTER said:—"I support the amendment. The question as to the insertion of the word 'estate' in sections 20 and 21 was very carefully discussed in Committee, and I was one of the members who desired to see the word 'estate' either qualified or omitted, because I believed the insertion of the word, without some qualification, might be productive of hardship to the *samindár*. It is quite true, as the hon'ble mover of the amendment has said, that the number of large estates is small, but the total area represented by this small number of large estates is very great. The insertion of the word 'estate' without any qualification would enable an occupancy-raiyat to traffic on the ignorance of the proprietor of an extensive estate situated perhaps in several districts by entering on land as a stranger and then asserting the occupancy-right. But I voted for the omission on the understanding that, if any reasonable proposal were brought forward to limit the meaning of the word 'estate', I would give it my support. The amendment now made does not entirely commend itself to me, and I shall presently state what I think a fair proposal. I shall bring forward that proposal as an amendment, should the amendment now before the Council not be carried. In the meanwhile, I shall vote for the amendment as it stands. The Select Committee held that it would be a hardship on the *samindár* that a raiyat from a distant part should settle down on the land of a large estate, and afterwards assert a right of occupancy—a right of which the *samindár* was ignorant when he admitted the raiyat as his tenant. There are two ways of dealing with the question—either to increase the area of the village or to diminish the area of the estate. Neither of these proposals found acceptance with the Committee. My own idea is that the best form of limitation will be to strike out the word 'estate' and to insert words which will cover the land or tenure of the actual landlord. The word 'estate' means a unit of entry in the Collector's register; what we wish to get at is the tenure or holding of the landlord immediately superior of a raiyat. When under-tenures are created in an estate, it renders it almost impossible for a large *samindár* to know what is going on in different parts of his estate, as the different under-tenures may have no connection with one another. But the landlord, or actual superior of the tenant, has in an immense majority of cases the means of knowing the class of tenant who asks for a holding. I am bound to confess that the introduction of the word 'estate', without qualification, might operate to the injury of the *samindár*. I was very much struck by the historical retrospect given by the hon'ble mover of the amendment in bringing forward this motion, and the evidence which I have myself collected bears him out in what he said about the sub-division of villages. A village has been subdivided not merely by the reclamation of new land, but also by various contingencies. The chief reason, however, why a residentiary village should no longer be taken as the unit for the exercise of the occupancy-right is not the subdivision of villages, but the sub-division of estates. Sub-division has been going on for a very long time, and, as a matter of fact, I believe there is a risk that in some cases the tenant who tries to enforce his occupancy-rights in a village will find it divided between several landlords.

"I agree with the Hon'ble Mr. Reynolds that there will be a danger of the raiyat being shifted beyond the boundaries of the village into another part of the estate not within the village. It seems to me, however, that there is also another danger. The raiyat has not merely the ordinary risk of being shifted from one village to another; he has also to contend with the distinct animus

on the part of a zamindár, whose interest it will be to prevent him from obtaining the right of occupancy, and who will try to shift him from one village to another. I do not share in the opinions of those who think that zamindárs, as a rule, have behaved badly to their raiyats. I admit that the difficulty mentioned by the Hon'ble Mr Evans is a true one. Not only are estates large, but they are also sub-divided, and there is the difficulty that the tenure-holder may not know the rights pertaining to the man who settles on his land. But I think it has been shown by the Hon'ble Mr. Reynolds that this danger is small as far as the landholder is concerned, while the risk is very great as far as the tenant is concerned. For these reasons I support the amendment. But if the amendment is not carried, I shall ask leave to move an amendment with the view of substituting the permanent tenure of the landlord for the word 'estate'. I am not aware whether it is in accordance with the rules of the Council to move an amendment upon the amendment. I shall ask Your Lordship to decide whether I shall be in order in doing so."

The Hon'ble MR. GIBBON said :—" I will not go very deeply into this matter. The Hon'ble Mr. Evans and other hon'ble members who have preceded me have already said all I had to say, or could say, on the subject. I will only say that I was among the number who would have been glad to see the area within which the occupancy-right would be allowed to accrue extended. But I admit all the difficulties in the way of allowing this which were found by the Select Committee. With reference to the specific amendment before the Council, that the limit of the estate should be the parganá, I can only say that I manage one estate within one parganá which consists of 1,100,000 acres. The proposal of the Hon'ble Mr. Hunter creates great difficulty in my mind. There are two classes of tenure-holders—one permanent, one temporary. The tenure-holder who has only a temporary interest in his tenure may be constantly shifted, and therefore the area within which the raiyat may one day acquire the occupancy-right may not be the same area the next day."

His Honour THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR said :—" I am bound to say a few words with regard to this question, which underwent long and serious discussion in the Select Committee; but the revival of the question in Council has been at my instance, because I could not help feeling that the principle which is involved is of very great importance and should be brought before the Council for consideration. The Hon'ble Mr. Evans the other day said that in regard to this matter the word 'estate' had been introduced at the instance of the Bengal Government. I wish to plead not guilty to that charge because, if I remember rightly, the proposal formed part of the suggestions in the despatch of the Government of India to the Secretary of State three years ago, and eventually received his approval. Now, of course, I understand that the Secretary of State, in giving his sanction to the inclusion of the word 'estate' in connection with this section, might have been misled, as probably many other mistakes have been made in considering analogies between estates and holdings in England and in this country, in the thought that an estate in India meant very much the same thing as an estate in England. The objection which has been taken is that an estate in India comprises very many large subordinate tenure-holders, who are practically as much landlords as the superior landholder himself. The position has been rightly explained both by the Hon'ble Mr. Evans and the Hon'ble Peári Mohan Mukerji, who have shown that where there are patnís and dar-patnís and se-patnís, carved out of the parent estate of the landholder or proprietor, as entered in the Government registers, there may be risks in giving too wide a definition which we should not incur. I fully recognise the force of that argument; but then there is a danger in the opposite extreme. The danger of limiting the position of the occupancy-raiyat to a single village lies in this, namely, the risk of the loss of his status as an occupancy-raiyat from the prevalence of the practice of the zamindár shifting him from one holding to another. It was the common prevalence of this practice which among other causes has led to a revision of the law. And, though the Hon'ble the Mahárájá of Durbhunga insisted the other day that there was no proof of such a prac-

tice, I think he must have spoken in forgetfulness of the statement which he himself made to the Hon'ble Mr. Reynolds—when he went on deputation under instructions from my predecessor, when there was proposal to recognise occupancy for three years, and not twelve years, as conferring the occupancy-right—that if that was the case, raiyats would have to be shifted from year to year to prevent their acquiring the occupancy-right. That was a clear illustration of how a large zamindár intended to act to prevent the accrual of the occupancy-right. Now if the right of occupancy is confined to the village in which the raiyat resides, it will still be in the power of the zamindár to turn the raiyat away from one village to another, and thereby make him lose the status, which it is one of the objects of the Bill to secure. The object and general policy of the Government of India within the last few years, as I have understood the discussions upon the subject, has been that it should be the aim of the Government to try and extend, as far as possible, the status of the right of occupancy, with a view not only to the great advantage of the zamindár in securing a raiyat with substantial interest in the land, but also generally for the interests of the country. Now, in the Select Committee, the original proposal for the introduction of the word 'estate' was after considerable discussion rejected. There is no wish to revive that proposal; but it demands attention, whether some modification could not be made which would still afford greater protection to the raiyat against the danger to which I have alluded; and I understand the Hon'ble Mr. Reynolds' proposal to-day to be that, instead of limiting the right simply to the village, it should be extended to the parganá, which is a larger area than a village. If it will facilitate the carrying out of the object of the Bill in giving better security to the raiyat in his holding, by extending the occupancy status to the parganá, where there would still be the same rent-receiver, I think it would be an improvement upon the section as it stands; and for my part I should be quite willing to adopt that modification. The risk of shifting the raiyat from village to village will not then be a serious one."

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY said:—"I am sorry I am not able to accept the amendment which has been urged upon us on the authority of the Bengal Government. I dwelt at such length in my speech on Friday last on the subject of omitting or retaining the word 'estate' in the definition of 'settled raiyat' that I don't like to go over the same ground again. Briefly, I may say that our objection to the word 'estate' as dealing with rent is that an estate might be divided amongst numerous tenure-holders of one kind or another who know nothing of one another's raiyats, and have no access to each other's papers. Therefore, in any of such cases a man might come in as a non-occupancy-raiyat and then claim occupancy-rights. I then went on to show that while there were serious objections to the retention of the word 'estate,' the advantage to be derived from its retention would of necessity be very small. Nine-tenths of the raiyats will have occupancy-rights under the Bill; therefore there remains only the one-tenth of non-occupancy-raiyats. Out of this one-tenth there would be exposed to danger from shifting only those who were on the estate of a landlord holding two or more contiguous villages in his direct possession, from one to the other of which the landlord might have the power to shift these men. The number of landlords who have this power is small; the number of raiyats on whom it could be exercised is extremely small. On the other hand, what is the real value of it to raiyats taking up fresh land? It is admitted that 99 per cent. of the raiyats cannot leave their village, and therefore only the few raiyats to whom the present proposal would be an advantage would be those who would be willing to abandon their homes. But this is precisely the class who should not, we think, have the boon. Looking at the disadvantage to the raiyat and the danger to the zamindár as in either case of very small importance, I prefer to take my stand on the ancient, historical, customary and legal rights of the khúdkhast raiyat and go no further. Now the khúdkhast raiyat undoubtedly had both by custom and right the right of occupancy in any land held by him in his own village. I am first met by the argument that this proposal had been sanctioned by the Secretary of State. His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, I think, has made an error in saying

that the words 'or estate' were suggested in the despatch of the Government of India; the suggestion was not made there, but was contained in the Secretary of State's reply. How far the Secretary of State had foreseen the difficulties arising out of the sub-division of estates into numerous separate tenures I cannot say; but when we came to examine the subject we found that a single revenue-estate might be sub-divided into a dozen or more of rent-estates. Therefore, while we have narrowed the area below the limits in the Secretary of State's despatch, we have very greatly strengthened and facilitated the proof of the right within that area. Then we were told that the word 'estate' was contained in the first and second drafts of the Bill, and that only now, at the last moment, we have made a change. I must ask the attention of the Council to the real history of the case. It is true that we did not leave out the word in the second draft of the Bill, but we specially called attention to the real inconveniences which would ensue from its retention, and it was on the strength of that call that the Local Government again referred the matter to its officers; and when we found that a large number of those officers objected, we again considered the matter. The change therefore was not made in the ill-considered way which might be imagined from the speech of the hon'ble mover of the amendment, but it was done on the advice of a great number of the officers of the Bengal Government. The hon'ble gentleman has laid a good deal of stress on the argument that a landlord ought to like to have occupancy-raiyats on his estate; he admits that the landlord does not like them, but he says that that is due to the ignorance of the landlord to his own interests. But we cannot make a landlord like what he ought to like. He has an idea that, by extending occupancy-rights beyond what the old law and custom of the country grants, it trenches on his rights as the landlord. Whether the morbid horror which the landlord has is well or ill-founded, there it is, and we ought to take some cognizance of it where it does not interfere either with the stability of the raiyat or the progress of the country. Then an argument is built on my assertion that the rights of the khúdkhást are limited to the village in which he resides. If this be true, it is urged that we should give him his rights in *that* village, the village of the old khúdkhást raiyat of the time of the Permanent Settlement. But the village of the Permanent Settlement is gone, because there is now so much more cultivation. By going to the village of the survey we are going back 30 years. The line must be drawn somewhere, and here we have an area which is definitely and finally recorded, and which is independent of any subsequent changes. I do not think we can be asked with any reason to go any further back. I admit that the village of the present day is probably smaller than the village of the time of the Permanent Settlement, but we have much more cultivated land. The village of the present day, as far as I can make out from a statement which has been furnished to me, averages about 400 acres. I cannot say what the occupancy-raiyat's right averaged at that time; but statistics show that in Dacca the vast majority have holdings of only five bighás, and in Tipperah three-fourths of them hold on an average not more than three bighás, and in portions of Behar three-fourths hold below five bighás. The standard bighá is one-third of an acre; therefore the average area of a village is 1,200 standard bighás; and comparing the agricultural holdings of an occupancy-raiyat with the area over which he can acquire the occupancy-right, I do not think that is such a small area, and there is no real necessity to extend it. We are asked to extend the right over so much land as is within the parganá. But what is the area of a parganá? The particular estate which the Hon'ble Mr. Reynolds mentioned as one in regard to which the difficulty had arisen, and the one to which he would apply his remedy, was the estate of the Maharájá of Bettiah. The Hon'ble Mr. Gibbon had told the Council that you will find a single parganá, the very parganá in which the Maharájá has the greater portion of his estate, containing a million of acres. What possible advantage, therefore, can it be in such a case as this to withdraw the word 'estate' and put in the word 'parganá'? It will leave the question exactly as it is. That of course is an exceptional case, but it is precisely one of the cases to which the Hon'ble Mr. Reynolds thinks it might be applied. As soon therefore as we begin to test the

matter we find that it does not meet the case. There are other ways proposed to meet the difficulty. One is that it should be confined to permanent tenures. That was proposed in Committee. The Mahārājā of Bettiah's estate is let out on long leases which fall in from time to time; consequently the raiyat holding under the intermediate tenure-holder, as the Hon'ble Mr. Hunter proposes to amend the section, is a raiyat who has one day an occupancy-right in the whole of the parganā and another day is a raiyat in a small tenure. As the small tenure falls in, it is held directly by the zamīndār or amalgamated with another tenure; consequently the area of a tenure is constantly shifting, and how we can regulate a raiyat's right of occupancy with an area which we cannot calculate I am unable to understand. I am afraid, therefore, that the scheme, however well intended, will break down on that point. There is one other point which is worth noticing, and that is with regard to the presumption. The presumption is a fair one so long as it gives the raiyat the chance of proving his occupancy-rights in the village. It is infinitely more difficult to defend if those rights are extended to the estate. The presumption itself is an infinitely more valuable boon than the extension, and I shall consequently ask the Council to reject the amendment."

The Hon'ble MR. REYNOLDS' amendment was then put and negatived.

The Hon'ble MR. HUNTER by leave moved to substitute in the amendment just put to the Council the words "a permanent tenure of the landlord" for the word "estate".

The amendment was put and negatived.

The Hon'ble BĀBŪ PEĀRĪ MOHAN MUKERJĪ moved that section 21, subsection (1), of the Bill be omitted. He said:—"A provision which gives the settled raiyat a right of occupancy in all land let to him will make the landholders very reluctant to let new lands to such raiyats. Such a provision would, therefore, act injuriously on the raiyats themselves. The hon'ble member in charge of the Bill expressed his wonder that the landholders should prefer to have for their tenants a body of serfs instead of a body of prosperous raiyats with substantial rights of occupancy, and my hon'ble friend Mr. Amīr Alī has given to the Council, as instances of unworthy conduct, extracts from statements made by landholders themselves, showing that in certain parts of Behar landholders give short term leases and shift raiyats from one plot of land to another with a view to bar the accrual of rights of occupancy. I wish to take this opportunity of submitting to Your Lordship and this Hon'ble Council that there is not a single statement in the massive records connected with this Bill that the practice in question obtains anywhere in Bengal, and, if it obtains in certain parts of Behar, it has the justification that the interests of agriculture in that Province make it necessary to let land remain fallow after it has been cultivated for a number of years. But little blame to landholders if they have taken care to prevent the extension of rights of occupancy in land. Neither the Regulations of 1793, nor any custom which found a place in the judicial records since that year, gave a right of occupancy to any but a khud-khāst-kudimi raiyat, that is, an old and resident raiyat. With all deference to the opinion of more than one hon'ble member to the contrary, I maintain, and I am prepared to substantiate the view, that Act X of 1859 for the first time gave rights of occupancy to non-resident and such of the resident raiyats as had not acquired it by length of possession; but, while creating this new right, it expressly provided for the protection of rights of landholders with regard to lands in which the right had not already accrued; and section 7 of that Act runs thus:—

'Nothing contained in the last preceding section shall be held to affect the terms of any written contract for the cultivation of land entered into between a landholder and a raiyat, when it contains any express stipulation contrary thereto.'

"Few zamīndārs would have cared to concern themselves with the growth of this right if that Act had not at the same time attached to it other substantive rights. The zamīndārs found that the law raised a presumption of fixity of rent in

favour of such raiyats which they could not possibly rebut, and that it gave them a right to hold at privileged rates of rent when their rents were enhanceable. It is not in human nature that landholders should not, under such circumstances, try to protect their own interests by following a course which was not only not unworthy in itself, but also one which the legislature had specially provided for them. And yet nothing shows their great moderation in this respect more than the fact that from 75 to 90 per cent. of the raiyats of these provinces unquestionably enjoy the right at present. There is no reason, however, that, because a man has a right of occupancy in a particular plot of land, the right should extend by possession for a single day to all land that might be let to him. Such a provision will act against the interests of the settled raiyats themselves. It would also hamper the extension of cultivation and the reclamation of waste lands.

"Nothing is more true than the observations on this point contained in the dissent of my learned and hon'ble friend, Dr. Hunter, which I shall read to Your Lordship :—

'As regards lands brought under cultivation by the landlord himself, by means of hired labour, he is in a much worse position than before. Henceforth the landlord who cuts down heavy jungle, or digs tanks, or drains swamps, at a large outlay by means of his own servants, will, under the provisions of the Bill, begin to lose the occupancy-right in the reclaimed land as soon as he lets it out to tenants. If the landlord lets the reclaimed fields to a settled raiyat of the village, the tenant acquires the occupancy-right the moment he enters on the land; if the landlord lets the reclaimed fields to any other raiyat, the title to occupancy-rights immediately begins to accrue. In no case will the landlord be permitted by special contract in his lease to bar the growth of occupancy-rights in land which he has reclaimed by his own servants at his own expense. Considering the pressure of the people on the cultivated soil and the existence of large unreclaimed tracts within a few days' walk of centres of congested population, I think it impolitic to place any new discouragements on efforts to add to the cultivated land.' "

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY said :—"I do not propose to follow the hon'ble member in his discussion of the position of the occupancy-raiyat or that of his predecessor, the khúdkhast raiyat of the time of the Permanent Settlement, beyond saying that I dissent from the hon'ble member *in toto*. The Hon'ble Member told the Council that the khúdkhast raiyat paid the highest competition-rent; but in saying so he used an expression which had absolutely no meaning. I have no doubt that Lord Cornwallis was correct in saying that the landholder took the highest rent he could get; but while rents were regulated by custom the term 'competition-rent' did not apply at all. Nor will I follow the hon'ble member in his examination of the right of occupancy. That it meant a right to hold at beneficial rates I find no authority. Whether he was right in saying that the status given under Act X of 1859 was more desirable than the right held at the time of the Permanent Settlement I do not care to enquire, but I would ask whether the hon'ble member would deny that the khúdkhast raiyat had a right of occupancy in any land which he might hold in his own village. In conclusion, I maintain that the proposal before the Council is absolutely contrary to the whole scope and meaning of the Bill."

The Hon'ble MR. AMIR ALÍ said :—"It seems to me that sub-section (1) of section 21 is the natural consequence of the whole of the deliberations of the Select Committee with reference to the status of the occupancy-raiyat. It is a natural consequence of the determination of the Government to give to the occupancy-raiyat a sufficient amount of protection against eviction, and to give him the same security in regard to all lands held by him in the village which he possessed under the law to a specific plot of land; and it is a natural consequence of the desire of the legislature to prevent the habit of shifting raiyats which had been frequent in all parts of these provinces. In face of the evidence before the Council not only in the reports furnished by the various officers of Government but also by the Famine Commission, it will be going beyond the actual existing circumstances to say that there is no necessity for some such provision as this."

The amendment was put and negatived.

The Hon'ble the MAHARAJA OF DURBHUNGA by leave withdrew the following amendments :—

That to section 21, sub-section (1), of the Bill, the following proviso be added :—

“ Provided that such land is not larger in area than the quantity of land continuously held by him for the last twelve years.”

That sub-section (2) of the same section be omitted.

The Hon'ble BABU PEARI MOHAN MUKERJI by leave withdrew the amendment that section 22, sub-section (1), of the Bill be omitted.

The Hon'ble the MAHARAJA OF DURBHUNGA moved that in line 4 of section 23 of the Bill, after the word “ unfit ” the words “ or permanently less fit ” be inserted. He said :—“ The object is to give the landlord sufficient protection against anything likely to permanently injure the land. I moved a similar amendment in Committee last year, but I believe that, although the Committee agreed with me in thinking that the landlord should have sufficient protection given to him to prevent the raiyat from doing anything likely to permanently injure the land, the wording of my amendment was not accepted. In any Bill of this sort, in which novel provisions for compensation for improvement have been inserted, it is only fair that some reciprocal advantage should also be given to the zamindar. It may be the case even now that some members might find some fault in the wording of the amendment, but I do not pretend to be much of a draftsman. I dare say, however, the Council will agree to the principle that some protection at least should be given to the landlord from any act of the raiyat which is likely to deteriorate the productive powers of the land.”

The Hon'ble MR. QUINTON said :—“ I think the section as it stands gives the landlord all the protection he can reasonably claim. To say that the land has been made less fit would give rise to litigation, because it would be impossible for the Courts to determine degrees of fitness, and would make the raiyat more and more uncertain as to their position.”

The Hon'ble BABU PEARI MOHAN MUKERJI said :—“ For the reasons assigned by the hon'ble mover, I think the amendment a reasonable one. Some protection should be given to landholders in cases in which the raiyats deteriorated the quality of the land and lessened the letting value of it.”

The Hon'ble RAO SAHIB VISHVANATHA NARAYAN MANDLIK said :—“ I think the amendment is worthy of being considered.”

The Hon'ble MR. REYNOLDS said :—“ As the Hon'ble Mr. Quinton has pointed out, it will be difficult for the Court to determine what has made the land permanently less fit for cultivation. It, therefore, seems to me an unreasonable suggestion, and I should prefer to leave the section as it stands.”

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY said :—“ I think the raiyat ought not to divert the land from the purposes for which it was let, and the amendment is one to which I have no objection in principle; but I cannot support it as it stands, because no Court could judge whether land had been rendered permanently less fit. I therefore think the wording of the amendment is objectionable, and that it will lead to litigation without that litigation being of any use.”

The Hon'ble the MAHARAJA OF DURBHUNGA said :—“ All that I want to place before the Council is that they should in some way recognise the principle that the landlord should be protected from any act of the raiyat which is likely to deteriorate the letting value of the land in future, and if the Council agrees to that principle I am sure the hon'ble member in charge or the Law Member might be able in a day or two to lay a better-worded amendment

before the Council. When you give compensation to the raiyat for improvements, you must give some reciprocal advantages to the zamindár."

His Excellency THE PRESIDENT said that the principle of giving protection to the landlord against improper usage of the land by the tenant was generally recognised in Europe. He would, therefore, suggest that the consideration of the amendment should be postponed, or else that the section should be passed and it be left for further consideration by the Council whether in a later part of the Bill some clause should not be introduced which would give all the protection which was desired.

The further consideration of section 23 was postponed.

The Council adjourned to Thursday, the 5th March, 1885.

FORT WILLIAM ;
The 31st March, 1885. }

R. J. CROSTHWAITE,
Offg. Secretary to the Government of India,
Legislative Department.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.
RAILWAY TRAFFIC.

No. XLV of 1884-85.

APPROXIMATE STATEMENT OF GROSS RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES OF INDIAN RAILWAYS.

Receipts Return received.	Railways.	Total length open.	RECEIPTS FOR WEEK ENDING 23RD FEBRUARY 1884.		Total length open.	RECEIPTS FOR WEEK ENDING 31ST FEBRUARY 1885.		TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM 1ST APRIL 1883 TO 23RD FEBRUARY 1884.		TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM 1ST APRIL 1884 TO 31ST FEBRUARY 1885.		Total Increase in 1884-85.	Total Decrease in 1884-85.
			Total.	Per mile open.		Total.	Per mile open.	Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total.	Per mile open per week.		
			R	R		R	R	R	R	R	R		
Guaranteed.													
Feb. 1885	Oudh and Rohilkhand	547	1,26,683	231	504	96,766	161	51,83,479	302	44,97,416	170		6,86,004
ditto	Bind, Punjab, and Delhi	764	2,12,886	282	708	2,31,268	328	99,06,689	284	96,12,524	386		2,94,166
ditto	Madras	861	1,41,651	164	861	1,42,002	165	61,14,982	151	63,84,910	159	2,69,988	
ditto	South Indian	856	79,531	121	654	81,924	125	35,98,756	117	37,25,219	122	1,84,463	
Mar. 1885	Great Indian Peninsula	1,458	6,98,384	479	1,504	7,78,924	518	2,97,99,982	435	3,00,83,078	428	2,83,096	
Feb. 1885	Bombay, Baroda, and Central India	461	2,32,625	505	461	2,56,472	556	1,03,26,845	497	1,03,80,821	482	43,976	
	TOTAL	4,736	14,91,739	316	4,780	15,86,351	332	6,49,30,733	292	6,46,83,967	290		2,46,764
State.													
Mar. 1885	East Indian	1,509	10,20,152	676	1,509	9,62,131	637	4,53,39,244	639	3,75,82,172	533		77,57,072
Feb. 1885	Eastern Bengal	233	93,400	401	233	82,028	352	46,14,329	458	48,27,548	476	2,13,209	
Mar. 1885	Nalhati	27	1,555	57	27	1,701	62	71,330	56	68,241	54		2,089
ditto	Northern Bengal	239	36,701	154	249	39,890	160	19,42,138	175	19,72,619	169	30,461	
ditto	Kaunia-Dharia	82	3,931	123	87	3,459	93	1,24,625	83	1,33,531	80	8,906	
ditto	Tirhoot	193	22,481	122	228	26,188	118	8,46,405	93	11,13,290	106	2,66,885	
ditto	Patna-Gya.	57	8,147	142	57	11,017	193	4,06,078	152	4,70,104	176	64,026	
ditto	Cawnpore-Achnura	188	10,809	78	249	18,157	73	5,15,975	81	8,16,880	71	3,02,905	
ditto	Dildarnagar-Ghasipur	12	796	66	12	1,088	89	42,258	75	42,719	76	461	
ditto	Rajputana-Malwa	1,117	2,95,619	265	1,120	3,05,910	273	1,17,90,564	225	1,11,87,222	214		6,03,342
ditto	Rewari-Ferozepur	140	18,825	134	201	21,540	74	3,76,137	89	7,61,753	85	3,85,616	
Feb. 1885	Wardha Coal	46	22,410	408	46	17,079	380	6,74,719	319	5,35,438	300		89,281
Mar. 1885	Nagpur and Chhattisgarh	149	24,292	231	149	26,231	189	11,19,420	189	11,48,645	165	26,215	
ditto	British Burma	161	55,049	342	254	66,590	262	13,68,102	181	17,60,001	158	4,11,899	
ditto	Sindia	76	8,232	110	75	9,198	123	3,14,265	89	3,36,617	96	22,352	
Feb. 1885	Punjab Northern	447	68,426	181	447	71,636	160	28,62,918	136	29,05,070	139	42,152	
ditto	Indus Valley	680	89,455	136	640	1,54,200	234	62,48,416	201	69,54,677	225	7,06,261	
ditto	Amritsar-Patbankot	61	2,168	62	66	5,394	82	(a) 19,255	49	1,93,915	69	1,79,680	
ditto	Bareilly-Pilibhit				36	906	25			(b) 11,477	20	11,477	
Mar. 1885	Dacca and Mymensing				10	1,355	186			(c) 9,074	130	9,074	
Feb. 1885	Kokilamukh				23	243	11			(d) 8,180	17	8,180	
	TOTAL	3,776	7,64,396	202	4,266	8,65,785	203	3,33,29,954	198	3,53,22,001	185	20,02,047	
AND TOTAL (GUARANTEED AND STATE)													
		10,021	22,76,287	827	10,556	24,14,267	323	14,35,99,931	308	13,75,98,140	284		60,01,791
ESTIMATED EXPENSES													
								7,07,61,454	152	7,15,35,104	149		
NET RECEIPTS													
								7,28,38,477	156	6,60,43,036	138		67,95,441
Assisted Companies.													
Feb. 1885	Bengal Central	114	6,001	53	126	10,799	86	1,14,155	61	4,35,338	73	8,11,189	
ditto	Rohilkhand and Kumaon				67	2,403	80			(e) 32,352	30	32,352	
Mar. 1885	Assam	40	2,166	54	78	4,240	54	56,979	45	2,03,120	64	1,46,141	
Feb. 1885	Southern Mahratta				214	9,719	41			2,66,593	39	2,66,593	
ditto	Bengal and North-Western				303	21,580	71			1,57,042	34	1,57,042	
Mar. 1885	Taraknour				23	5,297	240			(f) 40,846	260	40,846	
	TOTAL	154	8,167	53	810	62,628	66	1,71,134	54	11,25,291	62	9,54,157	
Native States.													
Feb. 1885	Bhavnagar-Gondal	193	30,737	107	193	22,366	116	8,08,958	89	9,91,584	110	1,82,626	
Mar. 1885	Jodhpur	19	726	38	44	2,360	54	37,781	42	65,839	36	28,058	
Feb. 1885	Nizam's	121	19,358	160	131	19,383	160	7,87,492	134	8,78,709	165	91,217	
ditto	Mysore	87	6,881	79	140	7,266	52	2,80,400	69	3,36,220	63	55,820	
ditto	Rajpura-Patiala				16	777	48			(g) 10,696	41	10,696	
	TOTAL	420	47,697	114	514	53,152	101	19,14,631	97	22,83,057	104	2,68,426	

A. B.—As regards the figures in column "Total receipts from 1st April 1883 to date," audited figures have been availed of as far as possible.
(a) Total receipts from 1st January to 23rd February 1884.
(b) Ditto ditto 14th October 1884 to 31st February 1885.
(c) Ditto ditto 1st January to 31st February 1885.

(d) Total receipts from 14th October 1884 to 31st February 1885.
(e) Ditto ditto 2nd November 1884 to 31st February 1885.
(f) Ditto ditto 1st January to 31st February 1885.
(g) Ditto ditto 1st November 1884 to 31st February 1885.

SIMLA,
27th March 1885.

T. F. DOWDEN, *Lieut.-Colonel, R.R.,*
for Under-Secretary.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE STATEMENTS OF PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD GRAINS FOR THE 1st AND 2nd HALVES OF FEBRUARY 1935, PUBLISHED IN PAGES 400, 401, 628, AND 629 OF THE SUPPLEMENT TO THE "GAZETTE OF INDIA," DATED 14th AND 28th MARCH 1935.

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

[illegible]

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE,
(Statistical Branch.)

D. BARBOUR,
Secretary to the Government of India.



SUPPLEMENT TO
The Gazette of India.

N^o 15 {

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 1885.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

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GOVERNMENT

DEPARTMENT OF

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGH

QUANTITIES PER

PROVINCES.	DISTRICTS.	QUANTITIES PER																			
		Wheat.			Barley.			Rice (best sort).			Rice (common).			Great Millet (Cholum, Jonari, Holcus Sorghum).			Bulrush Millet (Lasiacis, Pennicillaria).				
		Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fort- night of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fort- night of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fort- night of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fort- night of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fort- night of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fort- night of 1884.		
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.		
MAHARASHTRA.	Ganjam	17 11	17 11	8 13	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	16 8	13 13	13 13	17 14	...	27 11	...	23 13	22 11	...
	Vizagapatam	18 0	16 0	9 0	...	...	...	9 0	10 2	10 2	10 3	12 0	13 0	21 10	23 6	28 2	23 13	22 11	...
	Godavery	15 5	15 5	10 13	...	...	...	13 14	13 14	12 14	16 0	15 0	16 0	20 12	20 12	13 21	2	...	...
	Kistna	10 5	10 5	8 13	...	...	...	14 10	14 10	14 10	16 5	16 5	16 5	23 0	22 2	22 2	24 13	21 6	...
	Nellore	8 14	8 14	11 3	...	...	...	12 14	13 6	13 14	14 0	14 8	14 8	23 11	23 11	25 5	21 11	20 5	...
	Cuddapah	12 14	12 8	14 0	...	...	...	11 8	11 8	11 2	12 6	12 6	12 14	23 11	23 11	25 5	21 11	20 5	...
	Anantapur	10 10	10 10	13 6	...	...	...	9 10	9 14	11 13	10 5	10 5	13 0	19 0	19 10	27 13	18 13	19 13	...
	Bellary	18 6	14 6	17 5	...	...	...	10 11	10 11	12 5	11 14	11 14	13 8	22 11	21 10	33 0	20 11	18 13	...
	Kurnool	11 6	12 11	12 2	...	...	...	10 10	11 0	11 0	11 6	11 6	11 6	22 10	21 14	28 13	19 6	20 0	...
	Madras	11 5	10 0	10 10	...	...	...	11 6	11 6	14 2	12 6	12 6	15 11	16 10	14 6	23 13	21 13	21 3	...
	Chingleput	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 6	12 0	14 10	14 0	13 8	15 13	...	...	...	20 8	19 2	...
	North Arcot	10 2	10 3	9 11	...	...	...	12 8	12 2	15 0	15 6	12 6	16 0	...	21 13	33 11	...	21 6	...
	South Arcot	7 13	8 10	9 11	10 6	10 10	11 8	11 13	11 6	14 14	...	22 6	21 9	...	18 2	21 3	...	
	Tanjore	9 8	8 13	11 0	...	...	...	13 5	13 5	15 13	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 8	17 13	...
	Trichinopoly	9 3	9 3	9 10	...	...	...	12 8	11 14	16 10	12 11	12 5	16 11	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Madura	9 3	9 3	9 10	...	...	...	12 10	12 3	15 2	13 2	12 11	16 0	31 2	20 3	32 6	20 10	23 0	...
	Tinnevely	10 2	9 6	10 14	...	...	...	11 2	12 11	13 2	12 0	11 2	16 6	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Coimbatore	9 14	9 10	9 3	...	...	...	12 10	12 10	14 6	13 10	13 2	15 6	18 5	19 2	23 10	22 5	22 5	...
	Nilgiris	14 13	13 2	13 2	...	...	...	9 10	9 10	11 3	10 6	10 6	12 0	13 14	13 14	21 10	14 0	14 0	...
	Salem	8 8	9 3	9 3	...	...	...	11 3	10 13	15 0	12 3	11 5	15 0	20 0	18 3	27 5	19 11	19 11	...
	South Canara	10 3	10 3	12 11	...	...	...	8 11	9 3	9 0	13 11	13 11	13 3	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Malabar	12 14	12 8	10 6	...	...	...	13 3	13 0	13 13	14 0	13 13	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
BOMBAY.	Bombay	9 6	9 0	8 10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Ahmedabad	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Kaira	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Surat	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Broach	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Tanna (Salsette)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Colaba (Alibag)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Khandesh (Dhulia)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Nasik	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Ahmednagar	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Poona	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Sholapur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Kaladgi (Bagalkot)	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Satara	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Belgaum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Dharwar (Hubli)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Metnagiri	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Kanara (Karwar)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Panch Mahals (Godhra)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Aden	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Asirgarh	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Baroda	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nimach	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nasirabad	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rajkot	16 0	16 0	14 8	24 8	24 8	24 8	10 0	10 0	10 0	11 4	11 4	11 4	26 8	26 8	24 8	26 8	26 8	...			
Upper Sindh Frontier	15 5	15 8	14 0	22 0	23 0	22 0	8 8	8 8	8 8	15 0	16 0	13 0	22 0	21 0	19 0	18 0	17 0	...			
Karachi	19 0	18 0	16 0	24 0	24 0	27 0	12 0	11 0	12 0	16 0	16 0	15 0	27 0	23 0	23 0	24 0	24 0	...			
Hyderabad (Nakur)	15 8	15 0	14 0	23 0	24 0	24 0	11 0	11 0	12 0	14 0	12 8	13 0	23 0	23 0	21 0	22 0	22 0	...			
Shikarpur	17 0	17 0	15 8	27 0	25 0	27 8	11 0	11 0	10 0	17 0	15 0	13 8	24 0	24 0	21 0	21 0	21 0	...			
Sukkur	16 0	16 0	11 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 8	17 8	13 8	...	...	...	...	...	...
Thar & Parkar (Umarkot)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
PUNJAB.	Western Districts.	16 0	16 4	15 0	...	...	...	13 4	13 14	15 0	16 8	17 8	19 4	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Burdwan	17 8	16 8	15 0	18 0	18 0	14 0	16 0	16 8	18 0	19 0	19 8	19 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Bancoorah	16 0	16 0	15 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 12	13 8	13 8	15 12	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Beerbhoom	20 0	16 0	12 0	24 0	20 0	15 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	20 0	20 0	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Midnapore	17 0	17 0	16 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	8 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Hooghly	16 0	16 0	14 4	...	...	...	12 8	11 4	12 4	14 8	14 8	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
Howrah	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

a In the above columns the retail prices of salt per rupee were:—Gujarat 14 seers, Calcutta 12-12 seers, and Kanungunge 12-6 seers.
 b In the interior the retail price of salt ranged from 12 to 16 seers per rupee.
 c In the interior the retail price of salt ranged from 11-6 to 12-6 seers per rupee.

CE AND COMMERCE.

FOR THE 1st HALF OF MARCH 1885.

TERS OF 80 TOLAHs.

† In common use.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGH

QUANTITIES PER

PROVINCES.

BENGAL—continued.

DISTRICTS.	Wheat.			Barley.			Rice (best sort).			Rice (common).			Great Millet (Cholam, Jowar). Hulwa Sorghum.			Rajmash (Cumbon, ...) Pottulana		
	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1894.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1894.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1894.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1894.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1894.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1894.
Central Districts.																		
Calcutta	16 8	16 8	15 0	20 0	20 0	17 0	8 0	8 4	7 8	11 6	11 6	13 0	11 10	11 10	10 19	0 18	8 19	
24-Pergunnahs	16 0	16 0	13 5	21 4	17 8	17 8	12 5	12 5	13 14	14 4	13 14	13 15	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nuddea	17 4	17 4	16 12	23 13	22 15	...	16 0	16 0	14 0	18 0	18 0	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
Khoolna	14 4	14 4	14 8	...	...	...	13 4	13 8	12 13	16 0	16 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
Jessore	20 0	16 0	19 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	13 0	15 0	15 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meorshedabad	13 0	13 12	19 14	16 8	16 8	13 0	14 0	15 9	16 8	15 8	18 0	17 8	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dinapore	19 8	12 0 to 16 8	18 0	32 0	30 0	26 0	12 0 to 13 8	12 0 to 14 4	13 0	15 0	16 0	14 8	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rajahmudy	15 0	13 12	10 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	9 12	17 4	18 0	15 12	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bangpore	15 0	15 0	12 12	...	...	...	8 0	8 4	8 4	15 12	15 12	14 10	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bogra	18 0	18 12	18 12	10 0	9 0	...	5 0	5 0	5 0	12 0	12 0	10 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pabna	12 0	13 0	10 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	13 0	13 0	13 0	16 0	16 0	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
Darjeeling	...	10 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Jalpaiguri	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Eastern Districts.																		
Dacca	16 0	16 0	15 0	28 0	28 0	26 0	16 0	16 0	13 0	18 0	18 0	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
Forcedpore	16 0	16 0	22 0	34 0	34 0	30 0	14 0	14 0	13 0	16 0	16 0	14 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
Backergunge	13 0	12 8	13 4	...	...	...	13 0	12 8	13 0	16 0	16 0	14 8	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mymensingh	15 0	15 0	13 0	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	14 0	16 0	16 0	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chittagong	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	16 0	18 0	18 0	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nonkholy	12 5	13 9	13 5	...	...	...	15 14	15 0	14 3	18 4	18 4	16 8	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tipperah	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 6	11 6	13 5	13 7	13 5	14 8	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chittagong Hill Tracts	12 0	12 0	12 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	13 0	19 0	18 0	17 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hill Tipperah	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Behar.																		
Patna	21 0	22 0	20 0	32 0	32 0	23 0	10 8	10 8	10 10	21 0	21 0	13 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gya	16 0	18 0	16 8	23 0	25 0	21 0	...	9 0	10 0	13 0	13 8	14 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
Shahabad	19 0	19 0	17 12 to 19 0	23 0	22 0	23 0	9 0	9 0	9 0	14 0	14 0	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
Darbhanga	17 9	17 9	15 15	...	24 2	23 0	11 0	11 8	10 12	14 5	14 6	14 4	...	...	...	...	...	...
Moanerpore	20 0	18 0	17 0	24 0	25 0	23 0	12 0	12 0	11 0	16 0	15 0	14 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
Saran	19 0	17 0	17 0	25 0	25 0	20 8	8 8	8 8	8 8	17 8	17 8	12 0	31 0	32 0	23 0	...	...	...
Chumpran	15 0	16 8	16 0	24 0	21 0	...	11 0	11 0	9 0	16 0	17 0	14 8	...	...	...	...	...	...
Monghyr	19 11	19 15	18 14	21 0	21 0	21 0	10 8	10 8	11 9	13 10	13 10	12 9	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rhagapur	18 15	18 15	16 6	25 4	...	20 3	12 0	11 6	12 0	13 14	13 4	13 14	...	...	...	...	...	...
Purneah	15 0	18 0	14 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	13 0	16 0	16 0	14 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
Maidah	17 0	18 0	21 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	11 0	17 0	17 0	13 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
South-Pergunnahs	16 0	15 0	17 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	13 0	17 0	16 8	17 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
Orissa.																		
Cuttack	22 5	19 11	15 12	...	...	...	13 2	13 2	13 3	19 11	19 11	19 11	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pooree	18 6	17 1	16 12	...	...	...	15 12	16 12	15 12	21 0	18 8	23 10	...	...	...	...	...	...
Balasore	15 0	16 0	14 0	11 0	11 0	...	14 0	14 0	16 0	24 0	24 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
CHOTA NAGPORE.																		
South-Western Frontier Agency.																		
Hazribagh	14 0	14 8	5 0	...	...	...	10 0	11 0	9 0	15 0	16 8	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lohardugga	14 0	14 0	14 0	...	...	...	20 0	16 0	16 0	20 0	21 0	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
Binghoom	20 0	20 0	16 0	20 0	20 0	24 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	24 0	24 0	24 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
Naubhoom	16 0	16 0	14 0	...	...	...	15 0	15 0	15 0	20 0	20 8	23 0	...	...	...	...	...	...

- * In the interior the price of common rice ranged from 21 seers to 25 seers per rupee.
 f In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were:—Barasat and Bhadrak: 15 seers, Barasat 12-12 seers, and Barasat 13-13 seers.
 g In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were:—Kochubera 10 seers, Meherpur 12 seers, Coochabanga 12 1/2 seers, and Kaniaga 12-14 seers.
 h In the subdivisions of Saktara and Bagmati the retail price of salt was 11 seers per rupee.
 i In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were:—Jharkhand 11 seers, Jangipore and Kandi 12 seers.
 j In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were:—Jharkhand 11 seers, Jangipore and Kandi 12 seers.
 k In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were:—Jharkhand 11 seers, Jangipore and Kandi 12 seers.
 l In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were:—Jharkhand 11 seers, Jangipore and Kandi 12 seers.
 m In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were:—Jharkhand 11 seers, Jangipore and Kandi 12 seers.
 n In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were:—Jharkhand 11 seers, Jangipore and Kandi 12 seers.
 o In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were:—Jharkhand 11 seers, Jangipore and Kandi 12 seers.
 p In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were:—Jharkhand 11 seers, Jangipore and Kandi 12 seers.
 q The retail price of salt at this place was 10 seers per rupee.
 r In the interior the retail price of salt ranged from 8 to 12 seers per rupee.

A FOR THE 1st HALF OF MARCH 1885—continued.

KILS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Mulla Regi, &c.,
Yamunabazar,
Corney, Murh-
golee, Panich-
am, &c.

Port.		Gram.			Firewood.			Salt.									Districts.			Divisions.
Present fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.	Wholesale prices per maund of 40 seers.						Retail.						
								Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.				
S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	R. a. p.	R. a. p.	R. a. p.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.						
															<i>Central Districts.</i>					
															Calcutta					
															24-Pergunnahs					
															Nudda					
															Khoolna					
															Jessore					
															Moorshedabad					
															Dinapore					
															Rajshahye					
															Rangpore					
															Bogra					
															Pubna					
															Darjeeling					
															Jalpaiguri					
															<i>Eastern Districts.</i>					
															Dacca					
															Farrakapore					
															Backergunge					
															Mymensingh					
															Chittagong					
															Noakhally					
															Tipperah					
															Chittagong Hill Tracts					
															Hill Tipperah					
															<i>Behar.</i>					
															Patna					
															Gya					
															Shahabad					
															Darbhanga					
															Muzaffarpore					
															Sarun					
															Chumpran					
															Monghyr					
															Bhagalpur					
															Purneah					
															Maldah					
															Sonthal Pergunnahs					
															<i>Oriass.</i>					
															Cuttack					
															Pooree					
															Balasore					
															<i>CHOTA NAGPORE.</i>					
															<i>South-Western Frontier Agency.</i>					
															Hazribagh					
															Lohardugga					
															Singbhoon					
															Manbhoon					

The retail price of salt at Brahmunberah and Chandpore was 12 seers per rupee.

In the sub-divisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were:—Buxar and Samrat 12 seers, and Bhambhah 11-13 seers.

In the sub-divisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were:—Buxar 12 seers and Manubant 10 seers.

In the interior the retail price of salt ranged from 11 to 13-3 seers per rupee.

In the Gopalgunge sub-division the retail price of salt was 12 seers per rupee.

The retail price of salt in the interior ranged from 10 to 13-3 seers per rupee.

In the sub-divisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were:—Bhagalpur 12 seers and Jammu 13 seers.

In the sub-divisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were:—Buxar 12 seers, Madhupura 12 seers, and Soop's 11 seers.

In the sub-divisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were:—Bhagalpur 10 seers and at Ranegunge in the Arrah sub-division 11 seers.

In the sub-divisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were:—Bhagalpur 13 seers and Rajmahal 13 seers.

The retail price of salt in the Bhadrach sub-division was 10 seers per rupee.

The retail price of salt at Govindpore was 12 seers per rupee.

Buxar—continued.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT

QUANTITIES PER RU

Provinces.	Districts.	Wheat.			Barley.			Rice (best sort).			Rice (common).			Great Millet (Cholam, Jowar), Holcus Sorghum.			Bulrush M. (Curnboo, Isar), Pennisetum S.																		
		Present fortnight.			Past fortnight.			Corresponding fort- night of 1884.			Present fortnight.			Past fortnight.			Corresponding fort- night of 1884.			Present fortnight.			Past fortnight.			Corresponding fort- night of 1884.									
		S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.						
Assam.	Sylhet	12	0	12	4	13	0	...	...	16	0	10	0	11	3	10	0	17	8	18	0	14	8	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Cachar	11	6	11	0	10	10	...	...	8	0	8	0	8	0	8	0	10	0	10	0	15	0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Goalpara	16	0	13	4	18	0	...	...	9	0	9	0	13	0	16	0	16	0	15	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Garo Hills	16	0	16	0	13	8	...	...	7	0	7	0	7	0	10	0	10	0	13	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Kamrup	10	0	10	0	...	...	...	...	5	0	6	0	10	8	13	0	13	0	16	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Darrang	8	0	9	0	...	...	...	...	7	0	7	0	8	0	14	0	12	0	16	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Nowgong	8	0	9	0	...	...	...	...	7	0	7	0	8	0	11	0	11	0	12	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Sibsagar	8	0	8	0	12	0	...	...	10	0	8	0	8	0	11	0	11	0	11	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Lakhimpur	8	0	8	0	12	0	...	...	10	8	10	0	8	8	11	0	8	0	9	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Khas & Jaintia Hills	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	0	4	0	4	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Naga Hills	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
N. W. PROVINCES.	Dehra Dún	22	0	22	0	17	0	23	0	23	0	26	0	7	0	7	0	7	8	12	0	12	0	10	8	26	0	26	0	31	0	31	0		
	Soháranpur	25	13	24	11	19	6	32	4	32	4	25	18	8	9	9	11	7	8	11	13	12	14	10	12	32	4	32	4	4	11	37	10	37	10
	Muzaffarnagar	25	5	26	6	19	4	30	12	30	12	28	11	6	9	6	9	6	8	15	6	15	6	12	2	30	12	30	12	27	8	30	12	28	11
	Meerut	24	0	24	0	18	8	30	0	30	0	26	8	6	8	6	8	6	8	10	5	10	15	10	0	31	0	31	0	8	27	0	31	0	
	Bulandshahr	23	12	25	0	19	12	31	0	31	14	28	0	6	0	7	0	6	0	15	0	16	0	13	8	31	0	29	0	26	0	27	0	30	0
	Aligarh	21	0	22	4	18	8	29	0	32	0	25	8	6	0	7	0	9	0	12	0	12	0	11	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	30	0	30	0
	Kanauj	14	8	18	0	13	0	14	0	13	0	17	0	11	0	11	0	9	0	11	0	11	0	11	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	30	0	30	0
	Gorhwal	15	0	15	0	17	8	18	0	18	0	20	0	12	15	13	8	10	2	14	10	15	3	11	0	27	9	27	0	24	12	25	14	27	0
	Bijnor	22	15	21	10	18	14	30	0	33	0	30	10	9	0	9	0	10	4	14	8	14	8	14	0	31	8	32	0	30	10	28	8	30	10
	Moradabad	20	5	20	5	20	10	33	0	33	0	30	10	9	0	9	0	10	4	14	8	14	8	14	0	31	8	32	0	30	10	28	8	30	10
	Rudaul	21	0	22	12	21	14	36	0	38	6	32	6	6	4	6	4	6	4	15	0	15	0	11	14	30	0	31	0	33	0	34	0	34	0
	Bareilly	20	10	21	4	20	0	30	0	33	12	28	2	6	4	6	4	6	4	15	0	15	0	11	14	30	0	31	0	33	0	34	0	34	0
	Shahjahanpur	25	0	26	0	22	8	42	8	40	0	36	0	8	0	8	0	8	0	16	4	15	10	12	8	37	8	37	8	30	0	30	0	31	0
	Tarai Pergunnahs	22	8	22	8	20	10	27	8	27	8	30	0	7	14	7	14	8	12	15	0	14	0	12	8	32	0	31	0	33	0	34	0	34	0
	Muttra	20	0	21	0	18	8	31	0	31	0	26	0	5	0	5	0	5	0	11	8	11	8	10	8	30	0	31	0	33	0	34	0	34	0
	Agra	19	8	20	8	18	0	31	0	34	0	24	0	5	0	5	0	5	12	6	10	16	18	16	11	12	7	29	6	31	3	31	3	32	0
	Farukhabad	23	10	23	10	20	12	32	2	31	13	31	7	5	8	5	12	6	10	16	18	16	11	12	7	29	6	31	3	31	3	32	0		
	Mainpuri	23	0	23	8	20	0	30	0	30	0	26	8	5	0	6	0	6	0	13	0	13	0	10	0	12	0	29	0	30	0	30	0	31	0
	Etawah	24	8	24	8	20	8	30	0	30	8	30	0	6	0	6	0	6	0	13	0	13	0	10	0	12	0	29	0	30	0	30	0	31	0
	Etah	22	5	...	...	22	4	31	0	...	...	28	0	8	0	9	0	9	0	11	0	11	0	10	0	29	0	29	0	30	0	30	0	31	0
	Jalaun	23	0	23	0	21	0	25	0	25	0	18	0	9	0	9	0	9	0	11	0	11	0	10	0	29	0	29	0	30	0	30	0	31	0
	Jhansi	26	7	26	9	23	8	36	0	36	0	32	13	9	0	9	0	9	0	16	0	16	0	13	0	31	12	31	12	31	12	32	0	32	0
	Lalitpur	29	8	29	0	24	8	38	0	38	0	38	0	12	0	12	0	12	0	16	0	16	0	13	0	34	0	34	0	34	0	34	0	34	0
	Cawnpore	25	4	25	8	21	8	37	0	37	0	32	0	9	0	9	0	9	0	18	0	18	0	13	0	34	0	34	0	34	0	34	0	34	0
Fatehpur	21	8	22	0	18	4	31	0	31	0	28	0	10	0	10	0	9	8	16	0	16	0	13	0	30	0	37	0	33	0	33	0	33	0	
Banda	25	0	26	0	25	0	26	0	27	0	32	0	8	0	8	0	8	0	16	8	17	0	14	8	31	0	35	0	32	8	30	0	32	0	
Allahabad	22	4	22	0	17	6	30	8	30	8	28	0	10	8	8	8	9	0	14	1	14	10	12	10	33	7	32	0	33	0	33	0	33	0	
Hamirpur	25	2	25	5	22	12	...	...	...	...	10	8	8	8	9	0	16	8	15	6	15	6	12	12	29	0	30	0	32	5	32	5	32	5	
Jampur	22	0	21	10	18	1	26	10	26	1	28	4	7	0	7	0	7	0	17	17	17	17	14	14	54	23	64	24	51	8	52	3	52	3	
Gorakhpur	19	13	19	13	18	7	27	0	26	8	21	9	14	0	13	8	11	11	17	17	17	17	14	14	54	23	64	24	51	8	52	3	52	3	
Nauti	22	8	22	8	17	8	25	0	25	0	20	10	10	0	11	0	9	8	16	0	16	0	13	0	34	0	34	0	34	0	34	0	34	0	
Azamgarh	19	3	20	10	18	7	28	0	25	1	22	8	10	5	10	5	10	5	14	0	16	0	13	0	34	0	34	0	34	0	34	0	34	0	
Mirzapur	19	0	20	0	16	8	24	0	25	0	24	0	8	0	8	0	8	0	16	8	17	0	14	8	31	0	35	0	32	8	30	0	32	0	
Benares	18	10	19	5	18	10	24	7	23	3	24	7	6	7	6	7	7	14	24	14	24	11	9	25	12	28	5	29	6	23	3	25	16		
Ghazipur	18	0	20	10	18	14	24	8	24	8	28	7	14	2	14	2	9	0	15	8	15	8	14	2	29	0	30	0	31	0	31	0	31	0	
Bah	20	11	21	4	19	8	32	0	31	4	30	8	13	0	15	0	11	8	16	8	17	8	13	12	30	0	31	0	31	0	31	0	31	0	
Palibhit	...	...	...	...	...	...																							

TABLE FOR THE 1st HALF OF MARCH 1885 — continued.

ERS OF 80 TOLAH8.

[illegible]

• No wholesale salt sold.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGH

QUANTITIES PER

PROVINCE.	DISTRICTS.	Wheat.			Barley.			Rice (best sort).			Rice (common).			Great Millet (Choum, Jowar). <i>Holcus sorghum.</i>			Bajra (Common). <i>Pennisetum</i>		
		Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.
		S. Ch. S. Ch. S. Ch.	S. Ch. S. Ch. S. Ch.	S. Ch. S. Ch. S. Ch.	S. Ch. S. Ch. S. Ch.	S. Ch. S. Ch. S. Ch.	S. Ch. S. Ch. S. Ch.	S. Ch. S. Ch. S. Ch.	S. Ch. S. Ch. S. Ch.	S. Ch. S. Ch. S. Ch.	S. Ch. S. Ch. S. Ch.	S. Ch. S. Ch. S. Ch.	S. Ch. S. Ch. S. Ch.	S. Ch. S. Ch. S. Ch.	S. Ch. S. Ch. S. Ch.	S. Ch. S. Ch. S. Ch.	S. Ch. S. Ch. S. Ch.	S. Ch. S. Ch. S. Ch.	S. Ch. S. Ch. S. Ch.
MYSORE.	Pangalore	No return received			...			...			...			...			...
	Kolar																		
	Tumkur																		
	Mysore																		
	Shimoga																		
	Kadur	9 5	9 0	9 2	9 8	9 3	9 14	12 11	13 15	14 14	16 10	16 15	19 15	27	428	731	0	...	...
	Coorg	18 0	20 0	16 8	29 0	29 0	24 0	6 0	6 0	6 0	9 8	9 8	8 0	30	033	024	029	039	...
	Jessore	20 4	19 12	15 8	29 8	28 8	21 12	9 0	9 0	8 0	10 0	10 0	9 0	31	830	822	425	827	...
	Kishanganj	20 0	20 6	17 8	31 4	31 4	26 14	18 0	15 10	10 0	16 4	17 8	11 4	30	430	025	027	823	...
	Kerrowlee	19 7	19 10	17 8	34 0	31 10	25 1	6 12	6 12	8 0	13 8	13 7	10 8	35	433	1422	028	028	...
RAJPUTANA.	Udaipur	20 0	20 0	18 7	30 4	31 0	23 8	7 2	7 4	7 12	9 2	8 4	9 6	30	632	723	831	833	...
	Bharatpur (City)	19 0	18 8	15 8	29 0	28 0	22 8	3 0	3 0	6 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	31	030	031	023	023	...
	Ajmere	No return received			...			...			...			...			...
	Deoli Cantonment																		
	...																		
	...																		
	...																		
	...																		
	...																		
	...																		
	...	20 4	20 4	16 0	28 14	28 14	25 0	6 8	7 4	7 0	7 8	8 0	8 0	18	019	014	019	021	...
CENTRAL INDIA.	Erinpura	18 0	18 8	14 8	26 0	26 0	25 0	6 0	6 0	6 8	8 0	8 0	7 8	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Sirohee	15 0	15 0	13 0	20 8	20 8	20 0	6 4	6 4	6 8	8 0	8 8	8 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Abu	17 0	17 0	14 2	23 0	23 0	23 0	6 8	6 8	6 8	8 8	8 8	9 8	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Anadra	15 0	15 0	13 0	...	...	...	6 8	6 8	6 8	8 8	8 8	9 8	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Balmere	No return received			...			...			...			...			...
	Jaisalmer																		
	...																		
	...																		
	...																		
	Mewar (Oodeypore)	26 21	25 61	14 1	38 41	37 8	24 31	9 6	10 21	9 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Banowara (Mewar Agency)	35 0	35 0	18 13	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 0	18 12	20 0	16 4	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Partalgarh ("	30 15	29 6	15 7	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 0	18 7	13 2	12 8	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Murwar (Jodhpore)	16 8	18 2	15 8	24 12	25 0	21 4	6 0	5 0	6 14	7 12	7 12	7 8	26	026	420	022	82	...
HYDRABAD AG.	Bikaner	15 4	15 8	11 12	...	...	...	8 12	8 12	8 9	6 0	6 4	6 8	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Secunder	32 8	31 0	23 0	58 0	57 8	38 8	10 0	8 8	7 8	18 8	9 0	8 0	50	050	033	1229	02	...
	Kotah	33 0	33 0	24 0	40 0	40 0	25 0	7 8	7 8	7 0	8 0	8 0	9 0	31	451	434	025	02	...
	Tonk	24 8	24 8	21 4	37 12	37 8	29 6	7 8	7 8	6 8	6 8	6 8	8 8	40	044	1231	040	04	...
	Jaipur	29 61	29 161	19 11	51 11	51 11	21 15	...	...	...	11 12	11 12	10 31	43	643	1129	725	22	...
	Jhalawar	24 8	24 8	17 12	39 0	39 0	26 4	9 4	9 4	9 0	11 4	11 4	12 0	40	040	046	430	04	...
	Siropore	24 8	24 8	17 6	38 4	38 4	22 14	10 2	10 2	9 9	12 8	12 8	12 8	36	1436	1424	841	104	...
	Dholpur	19 6	20 2	17 2	...	...	...	9 8	9 4	9 8	10 0	10 0	10 0	20	029	826	1024	04	...
	Indore	21 15	21 11	17 16	18 4	19 11	24 8	7 13	7 13	7 7	10 15	11 8	8 10	23	1329	823	531	04	...
	Gwalior	22 0	23 0	24 0	21 0	21 0	20 0	12 0	12 8	8 0	13 0	13 8	9 0	40	046	034	025	02	...
HYDRABAD AG.	Gosna	24 8	24 8	26 1	37 8	35 0	29 10	8 0	8 0	7 0	19 8	20 0	18 0	31	031	1	...	...	...
	Baghelkhand (Sohna)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE,
(Statistical Branch.)

INDIA FOR THE 1st HALF OF MARCH 1885—concluded.

PIECES OF 80 TOLAHS.

Mile, Rari, Karni, Verachi, Chenna Corano, Nagier, Pangi, Mandrem, &c.		Gum.			Firewood.			Salt.						Distances.			Provisions.
Past fortnight.	Corresponding fort- night of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fort- night of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fort- night of 1884.	Wholesale.			Retail.			Present fort- night.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.	
S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.				
...	No return received			Mysore.
...	...	18 7	20 0	23 8	110 0	110 0	110 0	12 1	12 0	12 2	11 6	11 5	11 5	Coorg	...	Coorg.	
...	...	26 0	26 0	22 0	...	...	...	14 12	14 12	15 4	14 8	14 8	15 0	Jaypore	...	...
...	...	28 0	28 0	23 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	15 12	Kishengurh	...	...
...	...	21 4	23 8	25 0	...	...	...	14 4	14 8	14 0	14 0	14 4	13 12	Kerrowlee	...	...
...	...	20 1	31 0	24 12	...	...	...	16 4	16 4	15 7	15 8	15 8	14 12	Uluwar	...	...
...	...	24 11	24 11	22 10	...	...	...	12 4	12 4	13 4	12 0	12 0	12 0	Shurtpore (City)	...	...
...	...	28 0	28 0	23 8	80 0	80 0	80 0	17 0	17 0	18 8	15 8	15 8	15 0	Ajmere	...	...
...	No return received			...	...	...	Deoli Cantonment	...	...
...	...	25 1	25 1	20 0	320 0	320 0	170 0	S. Ch. 12 12	S. Ch. 12 12	S. Ch. 11 54	S. Ch. 11 11	S. Ch. 11 11	10 15	Erinpara	...	...
...	...	21 0	20 0	17 0	210 0	210 0	160 0	R. a. p. 2 13 0	R. a. p. 2 12 0	R. a. p. 3 0 0	R. a. p. 3 13 4	R. a. p. 3 13 5	12 5	Sirohee	...	...
...	...	18 0	18 0	16 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 1 3	3 1 3	3 4 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	12 0	Abn	...	...
...	...	20 0	20 0	17 4	...	...	...	2 15 0	2 15 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	3 8 13	8 13 4	Anadra	...	...
...	...	13 8	13 8	13 0	240 0	240 0	300 0	3 3 0	2 3 0	2 5 0	3 18 8	3 18 8	17 0	Balmere	...	...
...	...	26 0	25 0	20 0	...	...	...	No return received			...	...	...	Jaysalmere	...	...
...	...	24 3	23 15	15 10	200 0	200 0	300 0	S. Ch. 12 12	S. Ch. 12 12	S. Ch. 11 54	S. Ch. 11 11	S. Ch. 11 11	10 15	Hilly Tracts of Meywar	...	...
...	...	40 0	40 0	36 4	...	...	...	R. a. p. 3 2 9	R. a. p. 3 3 6	R. a. p. 2 9 9	R. a. p. 3 12 8	R. a. p. 3 12 8	12 8	Meywar (Oodeypore)	...	...
...	...	37 8	37 8	28 7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Banswara (Meywar Agency)	...	...
...	...	20 0	21 12	19 12	90 0	90 0	150 0	S. Ch. 2 7 3	S. Ch. 2 6 6	S. Ch. 2 9 9	S. Ch. 3 16 4	S. Ch. 3 16 8	15 10	Partabgarh	...	...
...	...	21 12	20 0	19 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Marwar (Jodhpore)	...	...
...	...	44 0	40 0	36 8	160 0	160 0	160 0	13 8	13 0	12 8	13 0	12 12	12 0	Bikaner	...	...
...	...	37 0	37 0	32 0	240 0	240 0	240 0	13 0	13 0	13 0	12 8	12 8	12 8	Boondee	...	...
...	...	32 0	32 4	29 0	90 0	80 0	100 0	14 8	14 12	13 8	14 4	14 8	13 4	Kotah	...	...
...	...	35 6	35 6	27 10	...	...	...	11 8	12 3	11 5	11 4	11 15	11 1	Tonk	...	...
...	...	28 4	28 4	24 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	14 12	14 12	14 0	14 10	14 8	13 14	Juhalawar	...	...
...	...	32 2	23 10	24 8	...	...	...	14 1	13 12	13 4	13 3	12 14	12 7	Shahpoora	...	...
...	...	28 4	27 12	20 0	105 0	100 0	100 0	13 8	12 0	12 8	12 0	11 10	11 6	Dholpur	...	...
...	...	23 1	23 5	21 15	140 0	118 10	127 12	12 6	12 6	...	11 14	12 2	11 14	Indore	...	...
...	...	32 0	34 0	29 0	280 0	280 0	200 0	13 4	12 4	12 8	12 0	12 0	12 0	Gwalior	...	...
...	...	29 0	27 0	33 2	200 0	200 0	300 0	12 7	12 8	12 0	11 7	11 12	11 6	Goon	...	...
...	Baghelkhand (Setna)	...	...

* Night piece per bundle.

D. BARBOUR,
Secretary to the Government of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.


SUPPLEMENT TO THE STATEMENTS OF PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD GRAINS FOR THE 1st HALF OF JANUARY AND 1st AND 2nd HALVES OF FEBRUARY 1885, PUBLISHED IN PAGES 178, 179, 480, 481, 628, AND 629 OF THE SUPPLEMENT TO THE "GAZETTE OF INDIA," DATED 7th FEBRUARY AND 14th AND 28th MARCH 1885.

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Districts.	Wheat.	Barley.				Rice.				Great Millet.				Burmese Millet.				Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c.				Gram.		Firewood.		Salt.	
		Present fortnight.		Corresponding fortnight of last year.		Present fortnight.		Corresponding fortnight of last year.		Present fortnight.		Corresponding fortnight of last year.		Present fortnight.		Corresponding fortnight of last year.		Present fortnight.		Corresponding fortnight of last year.		Present fortnight.		Corresponding fortnight of last year.		Present fortnight.	
		S. C. S. C.	S. C. S. C.	S. C. S. C.	S. C. S. C.	S. C. S. C.	S. C. S. C.	S. C. S. C.	S. C. S. C.	S. C. S. C.	S. C. S. C.	S. C. S. C.	S. C. S. C.	S. C. S. C.	S. C. S. C.	S. C. S. C.	S. C. S. C.	S. C. S. C.	S. C. S. C.	S. C. S. C.	S. C. S. C.	S. C. S. C.	S. C. S. C.	S. C. S. C.	S. C. S. C.	S. C. S. C.	S. C. S. C.
1st half of January 1885.																											
Doel Cantonment	38 12 36 0	22 8 44	0 13 15 30			9 4 9 4	9 12 41 12 40	3 98 12 33	8 33	0 22 0																	
1st half of February 1885.																											
Bilaneer	15 8 15	8 11 8				3 12 3 12	3 9 6 4 6 3 6																				
2nd half of February 1885.																											
Partabgarh (Meywar Agency)	29 6 38	7 15 2				10 0 10 0	10 0 13 2 13 2																				
Bilaneer	15 8 15	8 11 8				3 12 3 12	3 9 6 4 6 3 6																				

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DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE,
(Statistical Branch.)

 Continuation Sheets of Supplement to the Gazette of India published at Calcutta.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

REPORTS ON THE STATE OF THE SEASON AND PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS FOR THE WEEK ENDING 1st APRIL 1885.

GENERAL REMARKS.—The following remarks relate to the fortnight ending the 8th instant.

In Madras the rainfall has been general, though light in most districts. From Mysore and Coorg, and most districts of the Bombay Presidency slight showers are reported. In the Punjab rain fell throughout the province, and slight rain is also reported from two or three places in the Central Provinces and from several of the Central India and Rajputana States. In Bengal rain fell in a few districts, and in Assam the fall was general and in some districts heavy.

In Madras the standing crops continue generally fair. In Mysore prospects are not very promising at present; pasturage and water are scarce, and paddy and sugarcane are reported to be withering in parts.

In Bombay the *rabi* harvest has been completed in some districts, and is in active progress elsewhere. In the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, the Punjab, and the Central Provinces the *rabi* is also being cut, and prospects are generally good. The *rabi* harvest is also in progress in the Central India and Rajputana States and the Nizam's territories; in the Berars threshing is taking place. In Bengal the *rabi* harvest is well advanced; more rain is wanted for standing crops and for ploughing operations; sowing of early paddy has commenced in places. A scarcity of drinking-water is reported from Beerbhoom. The rain, which fell in Assam during the past fortnight, has been very beneficial to the standing crops, dry weather is, however, now needed to facilitate sowings. The prospects of the crops are generally good.

Small-pox and cholera are prevalent in most provinces, but otherwise the public health is generally good.

Prices are generally steady, except in the Punjab and a few districts in Bengal, where they show a slight advance.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Madras—(April 1st)		
Bellary ...	.....	Standing crops dry generally and wet in parts, otherwise withering from want of rain; harvest paddy and dry grains, yield below average. Sixteen deaths from cholera.
Kurnool ...	07	Standing crops good, except in one division and in parts of three taluks, where they have withered from want of rain; harvest cotton, yield half. Small-pox and cattle-disease prevalent.
Ganjam ...	18	Cholera prevalent; fever, small-pox, and cattle-disease prevalent.
Kistna ...	18	Standing crops good. Fever, small-pox and cattle-disease exist; 20 deaths from cholera.
Chingleput (Madras) ...	21	Standing crops good, except in parts of two taluks, where they are withering from want of water; harvest paddy, outturn below half the average. Small-pox and cattle-disease prevalent; 5 deaths from cholera.
Coimbatore ...	22	Standing crops, wet, good, except in parts of two taluks, where they require rain; dry crops little standing. harvest dry grains, outturn about average. Small-pox and fever exist; 10 deaths from cholera.
Tanjore ...	17	Standing crops good, except in parts damaged by late rain and floods; harvest wet and dry grains, outturn below average. Cholera abating, 115 deaths.
Madara ...	02	Outturn of harvest unsatisfactory. Fever prevalent; cholera slight.
Malabar ...	50	Harvest third rice crops progressing. Small-pox prevalent; fever exists; cattle-disease slight; 12 deaths from cholera.
Travancore ...	120	Fever prevalent; small-pox exists.
Bombay—(April 1st)		
Kurrachee ...	Kurrachee, 02; Manora, 03.	Weather cloudy and sultry. River at Kotri on 30th, 5 feet 6 inches against 5 feet 10 inches on same date last year. Fever in six and cattle-disease in four talukas; loss of 25 buffaloes, 2 cows, and 110 sheep and goats in Kohistan and Manjhanl; 1 case of small-pox remaining in Kanachi; disease in 48 villages in the district, 49 fresh cases, 15 deaths, 104 remaining; cholera cases in Sakro 59, 23 deaths, 63 remaining; in Ghorabari 53 cases, 35 deaths, 20 remaining; in Shahbanda 12 cases, 10 deaths. Prices—wheat, red rice, and <i>bajri</i> in Kanachi 26, 28 and 36, in Sehwan 36 and 42, in Ghorabari 22, 40 and 36, and in Jati 26, 43 and 44 pounds per rupee, respectively.
Hyderabad ...	.....	<i>Rabi</i> good; wheat harvest commenced in some talukas. Sky cloudy. River at Kotri on 30th, 5 feet 6 inches against 5 feet 10 inches on same date last year. Fever in four talukas; measles in Hyderabad; small-pox in five and cattle-disease in five talukas; cholera at Tando Muhammad Khan 11 cases, 4 deaths on 29th and 30th. Wheat 30, <i>juari</i> 40, <i>bajri</i> 40, white rice 20, and red rice 28 pounds per rupee.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Bombay—contd.		
Ahmedabad	.....	Reaping of <i>rabi</i> crops continues; wheat 39 and <i>bajri</i> 38 pounds per rupee.
Baroda	.....	Health good, except measles and chicken-pox in Naosari. Harvesting of <i>rabi</i> in progress; <i>bajri</i> 34 and rice 24 pounds per rupee.
Surat	.....	<i>Rabi</i> harvest and cotton-picking continue. Cholera in Surat, Ulpad, and Jalalpur, 39 cases, 21 deaths. <i>Juari</i> 39 and <i>nagli</i> 49 pounds per rupee.
Nasik	.....	<i>Rabi</i> crops good; reaping in progress. Cholera in parts of Nandgaon, 5 attacks, 1 death; public health generally good. Wheat 40, <i>bajri</i> 36½, and rice 24 pounds per rupee.
Colaba (Bombay)	.....	Average abnormal temperature from 25th to 28th 1° warm, and from 29th to 31st 3° warm; vapour in air excessive, except on 25th and 26th; abnormal wind northerly on 25th, 26th, 27th and 29th, and southerly on 30th and 31st; distant lightning on the night of 28th.
Poona	.....	Cholera in four talukas, cases 146, fatal 34. Prices— <i>bajri</i> 33 and <i>juari</i> 42, in Poona <i>bajri</i> 32 and <i>juari</i> 35 pounds per rupee.
Ahmednagar	23 in Nagar	Reaping of <i>rabi</i> over. Fever in Jamkhed. <i>Juari</i> 42 to 72 and <i>bajri</i> 38 to 49 pounds per rupee.
Sholapur	31; Barsi, 33; Kar-mala, 17.	<i>Rabi</i> harvest almost completed. <i>Juari</i> 51 pounds 16 tolas and <i>bajri</i> 38 pounds 24 tolas per rupee.
Dharwar	Slight rain in four talukas. Dharwar, 39; Dewas, Hubli, 78; Hubli, 54; Hangal, 14; and Ron 37.	Harvesting of late <i>juari</i> and cotton-picking in progress. Scarcity of fodder in two and of drinking-water in seven talukas. Small-pox in three talukas. Rice 23 to 32 and <i>juari</i> 37 to 39 pounds per rupee.
Kanara	Sirsi, 52; Supa, 28; Siddapur, 31.	Rice common in Karwar 14 and district average 14½ seers per rupee. Small-pox—6 deaths in Siddapur and 1 each in Supa and Mundgod petha; cattle-disease in Karwar; fever in Hanavar. Weather fair. General health good. Weather very warm. Small-pox at Jafarabad and Dhrol. <i>Bajri</i> 33 and <i>juari</i> 43 pounds per rupee.
Rajkot	.....	General Remarks. —Slight rain in parts of ten districts. <i>Rabi</i> harvest completed or nearly so in six districts, in progress in others; cotton slightly injured by rain in parts of two talukas of Belgaum. Scarcity of fodder and drinking-water in several talukas of Dharwar and parts of one taluka of Belgaum. Cholera in parts of nine districts; small-pox in parts of eleven, and cattle-disease and fever in parts of seven districts.
Bengal—(April 1st)		
Chittagong	1.29	Weather reasonable. Prospects of crops continue good. Prices of food-grains steady. Cholera still reported, otherwise public health good.
Dacca	3.15	Gathering of pulses nearly finished; cultivating operations going on vigorously; <i>cheena</i> , <i>laon</i> , and other crops thriving. Some cases of small-pox and cholera in the district.
24 Pargunnahs (Calcutta)	0.95	Lands being ploughed. Price of common rice varies from 16½ to 17½ seers per rupee. Public health generally good, though sporadic cases of cholera reported from several places. State of river normal.
Moorebhabad	Nil	Weather hot and sultry. Reaping of <i>rabi</i> crops almost over, with fair outturn; lands being prepared for <i>bhadai</i> crops in Jungpore subdivision. Public health good.
Rajshahye	.....	No report received.
Bardwan	Nil	Slight rain fell in Culna and Cutwa subdivisions; more wanted for preparation of land. Price of rice varies from 13½ to 17½ seers per rupee.
Bungpore	0.42	Sowing of <i>aus</i> progressing; wheat, tobacco, and pulses still being gathered. Rain wanted. Price of food-grains stationary. Cholera prevails.
Bhagalpur	Nil	Outturn of <i>rabi</i> crops varies from 6 to 10 annas. Price of rice is 15½ seers per rupee.
Purneah	Nil	Standing crops expected to yield fair outturn in places; harvesting of wheat commenced. Common rice 16 seers per rupee. Health fair. Rivers low; ground unusually dry.
Patna	Nil	Harvesting of <i>rabi</i> crops continues; paddy yielded a good outturn. Small-pox and cholera prevail in certain places in Behar division.
Durbhanga	Nil	<i>Rabi</i> crops nearly all harvested. Opium being weighed. Rain wanted for sowing of early paddy. Prices gradually rising. Public health good.
Hamirbagh	Nil	Weather hot. <i>Rabi</i> crops still being harvested in certain places; <i>mukra</i> flowers are falling. Public health generally good.
Cattack	Nil	Weather hot. <i>Dalia</i> crop ripening, and in some places being harvested. Price of rice stationary. A few cases of small-pox and cholera in the interior; otherwise public health generally good.
Midnapur	Nil	Weather hot. Agricultural operations are stopped for want of rain.
Kulna	1.21	The rain has been beneficial to ploughing and <i>boro</i> paddy. Prices of food-grains stationary. Public health generally good, but cholera reported from several places; cattle-disease in Itgirhat subdivision.
Dinagapur	.....	Slight rain fell in some parts. Ploughing for <i>bhadai</i> crops proceeding. Rice selling at 16 seers per rupee. A few cases of cholera and cattle-disease reported.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Bengal—contd.		
Pubna (Serajgunj) ...	.....	Slight rain fell; more rain wanted. Price of rice stationary. A few sporadic cases of cholera reported; cattle-pox disappeared.
Gya ...	Nil	Outturn of <i>rabi</i> and <i>poppy</i> crops good. Prices of food-grains rising slightly. Fever and small-pox reported.
Chumpan ...	Nil	Harvesting of <i>rabi</i> crops continues; prospects of <i>poppy</i> crops continue good. Prices rising slightly. Public health fair.
Shahabad ...	.....	Weightment of opium has commenced; outturn good.
Mozufferpore ...	.....	Collection of opium finished; weightment going on; outturn good.
Sarun ...	.....	Collection of opium finished; weightment going on.
Monghyr ...	.....	No report received.
		<i>General Remarks.</i> —Some rain fell mostly in the districts of the Presidency and Dacca divisions; more rain is generally wanted for agricultural operations, which are somewhat retarded in a few districts. <i>Rabi</i> crops are still being reaped in several districts, with a fair outturn. Prices of food-grains show a slight advance in a few districts; otherwise they are stationary. Cholera prevails almost in every district of Bengal proper; cases of small-pox are still reported from some districts.
N.-W. Provinces and Oudh—(April 2nd)		
Benares (March 31st)	No rain	Weather hot. <i>Rabi</i> cut, outturn fair average; sugarcane being planted and sprouting in places; opium collections finished. Bazars well-supplied. Prices rising. No sickness of men and cattle.
Gorakhpur (" 30th)	.....	Weather fair. Crops nearly harvested, outturn good; <i>poppy</i> yield good. Prices slightly falling.
Fyzabad (" 31st)	No rain	Weather hot. Harvesting in progress; collection of opium is now almost completed. Prospects good. Public health and condition of cattle good.
Lucknow (" 30th)	.....	Weather hot, and strong west wind. Threshing and winnowing commenced; opium collection nearly finished. New grain is coming into the markets; supplies abundant. Prices steady. Condition both of men and cattle good.
Reo Bareilly (March 30th)	.....	Weather reasonable. Harvesting of <i>rabi</i> crops in progress. Supplies ample. Prices steady. General health good.
Partabgarh (" 31st)	.....	Threshing in active progress; sugarcane and indigo being sown. Weather unusually hot. Prices falling. Health of people good.
Allahabad ( " " )	.....	Harvesting nearly completed; cane sowing in progress. Prices slightly fallen. Health good.
Cawnpore (" 30th)	No rain	Weather warm. Harvesting of <i>rabi</i> and sowing of indigo and extra crops in progress; opium collections in hand, and about half of estimated yield collected. Prices show a slight tendency to rise. Small pox of a mild type in two parganas and slight fever in another; cattle in good condition.
Banda (April 1st)	.....	Weather clear. Reaping in progress. Prices steady. No distress.
Ballia (March 30th)	.....	Heat increasing; wind westerly. Barley, wheat, and gram cuttings over; <i>arhar</i> being cut; all crops satisfactory. Markets well supplied. Prices fallen. Isolated cases of small-pox in Ballia tabul; public health good.
Parakhabad (" 31st)	.....	Barley and <i>arhar</i> being cut. Market well supplied. Prices steady. Opium yield fair. Health of people fair.
Sitapur ( " " )	.....	Harvesting of <i>rabi</i> crops progressing, and outturn is said to be good. No sickness reported.
Bareilly (" 30th)	.....	Harvest being rapidly cut. Prices steady. Public health remaining good.
Kumaon ( " " )	.....	Crops good; require rain; <i>kharif</i> operations being commenced. Prices unchanged. Health good; fever in some places; cattle-disease continues.
Agra (" 31st)	No rain	<i>Rabi</i> being harvested. Prices steady. Slight cholera in city and in two parganas.
Jhansi ( " " )	.....	Average outturn of <i>rabi</i> is estimated at 12 annas; gathering of opium in progress. Prices falling. Health good.
Meerut (" 30th)	No rain	Slight drizzle on 26th often cloudy. Crops ripening fast; barley, peas, and oats being harvested. Prices steady. Health good.
		<i>General Remarks.</i> —Harvesting completed in a few districts; in others in progress; outturn good. Markets well supplied, and prices steady on the whole. Public health good; a few cases of cholera reported from Agra and Aligarh.
Punjab—(April 1st)—		
Delhi ...	.....	Health and <i>rabi</i> prospects good. Prices rising.
Hissar ...	.....	<i>Rabi</i> being cut. Health good. Prices stationary.
Umballa ...	No rain	Health and prospects good. Prices stationary.
Jullunder ...	3	Health and crops good. Prices rising.
Amritsar ...	No rain	Health and crops good. Prices rising.
Sialkot ...	.....	Health and harvest prospects good. Prices slightly rising.
Ferozepore ...	No rain	Health and state of crops good. Prices rising.
Lahore ...	No rain	Health good. State of crops fair. Prices stationary.
Rawalpindi ...	1-1	Health and <i>rabi</i> prospects good. Prices slightly rising.
Shahpur ...	Slight rain	Health good. Prices stationary.
Mooltan ...	No rain	Health and state of crops good. Prices slightly rising.
Dera Ismail Khan ...	15	Health and prospects good.
Peshawar ...	.....	No report received.
		<i>General Remarks.</i> —Health and prospects good. Prices rising in most of the districts of the province.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Central Provinces—		
Nagpur ...	.....	Weather sultry and cloudy. <i>Rabi</i> being winnowed. Small-pox and cattle-disease prevalent. Prices steady.
Jebulpore ...	.....	Weather cloudy, occasionally warm. Reaping in progress; wheat suffered more or less from gerva. Prices stationary. Health good.
Saugor (March 31st) ...	.....	Weather cloudy. <i>Rabi</i> harvest commenced; crops favourable, but wheat somewhat stunted, and gram not well developed. Health good. Prices easy.
Seoni ...	35	Weather cloudy and occasionally hot. Reaping progressing; 2 annas' damage estimated in Zukhna/low tahsil by hail and gerva and 12 annas' in 80 villages of Seoni tahsil. Cattle-disease and small-pox continue. Prices—wheat risen, rice stationary.
Hoshangabad ...	.....	Weather hot and cloudy. <i>Rabi</i> harvest progressing. Fever somewhat prevalent; 7 cases of small-pox. Prices steady.
Khandwa ...	Thunderstorm with slight rain on two days.	Weather hot and close. Reaping continues. Cholera—25 cases, 6 deaths. Prices stationary.
Raipur ...	.....	No report received.
Sambalpur (March 28th) ...	.....	Weather cloudy and warm. Sugarcane sowing continues. Cholera in places. Prices stationary.
<i>General Remarks.</i> —There has been damage by hail in Seoni, and threshing has disclosed some loss by rust in the northern districts. Weather sultry and cloudy, with occasional storms.		
British Burma— (April 1st)		
Akyab ...	Nil	Slight cholera in town, otherwise public health good; health of cattle good.
Rassein ...	Nil	Health good.
Bangoon ...	02	Total rainfall to date 19. Public health good.
Amherst (Moulmein) ...	Nil	Public health and health of cattle good.
Tavoy ...	Nil	Public health and health of cattle good.
Fegu ...	Nil	Public health and health of cattle good.
Henzada ...	Nil	Small-pox prevalent in Henzada town and slight in one other town; slight cattle-disease in one circle.
Prome ...	Nil	Public health good; slight cattle-disease in two townships.
Toungoo ...	07	Total rainfall up to date 1034. Public health and health of cattle good.
Thayetmyo ...	04	Total rainfall up to date 04. Small-pox and cholera continue in town, otherwise public health good.
<i>General Remarks.</i> —Cholera and small-pox in several districts, but slight only, except in one township of Tharrawaddy where small-pox severe; cattle healthy.		
Assam—(April 1st)		
Gauhati (March 31st) ...	490	Temperature cooled down. <i>Ass</i> crop cultivation in progress. Public health fair.
Sylhet ...	548	The late rain has been very beneficial. Cattle-disease and small-pox reported; public health otherwise fair.
Cachar ...	275	Weather warm. No crop on the ground. Common rice 17½ seers per rupee. Two deaths from cholera from Sadr and one from Hailakandi reported.
Dibrugarh ...	187	Weather reasonable. Sowing of <i>ahu dhan</i> commenced; sugarcane being crushed. Public health good.
Mysore and Coorg— (April 1st)		
Bangalore ...	Showers reported from Tumkur and Bangalore districts.	Prospects still uncertain. Cholera prevails in parts of Mysore and Kolar districts, otherwise public health fair. No material change in prices.
Mercara ...	06	Coffee blossomed well. Prices stationary. Prospects of season and public health good.
Berar and Hyderabad— (April 1st)		
Amraoti ...	.....	Weather warm; occasionally cloudy. Threshing of <i>rabi</i> crops still continues. Wheat 22 and <i>juari</i> 26 seers per rupee.
Akola ...	.....	Weather warm. Threshing of <i>rabi</i> crops progressing.
Hyderabad (March 27th) ...	48	<i>Tabi</i> crop damaged in the Patlar taluka; crops progressing in other talukas; <i>rabi</i> crops continue to be reaped. General health fair. Prices—wheat 14½, coarse rice 13, white <i>juari</i> 18, yellow <i>juari</i> 22, and <i>tur</i> 17½ seers per current sicca rupee.
.. (April 1st) ...	No rain	<i>Tabi</i> crops prospering. General health good. Prices—wheat 14, coarse rice 12½, white <i>juari</i> 18½, yellow <i>juari</i> 23½, and <i>tur</i> 18½ seers per current sicca rupee.
Central India States— (April 1st)		
Indore ...	.....	Weather cloudy and hot. Health good. Prospects favourable.
Morar (Gwalior) ...	.....	Health and prospects good. Weather reasonable.
Buna ...	.....	Weather hot. Health and prospects good.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Central India States—		
<i>contd.</i>		
Rutham	No report received.
Nesimuch	Weather hot. Opium collections approaching completion. No more cases of measles.
Goonna	Weather reasonable. Health and prospects good. Harvesting begun.
Bhopal	No report received.
Agar	Weather becoming hot. Health and prospects good.
Benares	Weather good. Opium crops injured, but other crops good. Health good.
Nawgong	Rabi crop is being reaped. Weather hot. Health good. Prices steady.
Manpur	No report received.
Rajputana—(April 1st)		
Abu ..	Drizzling rain with thunder and lightning early yesterday.	Cloudy since; close.
Sirohi (March 29th)	Tanks dry; wells good. Health good. Crops being cut. Weather warm.
Marwar („ 27th)	Two months' water in Jodhpur city tanks. Health good. Rabi ripe for reaping. Mornings cool; days hotter. Prices falling.
Mewar („ 29th)	Tanks, wells, and prospects very good. Health good. Hot weather.
Haroti („ 28th)	Heat great; high west wind. Rabi crops being gathered; collection of opium commenced. Measles prevalent in Tonk; elsewhere health good.
Jhallawar („ 27th)	Pretty general complaint of small outturn of opium; wheat harvest less promising.
Ajmere („ 31st)	Cloudy. Reaping harvest. Health good.
Jeypore („ „)	Slight rain, and weather cloudy. Harvesting in progress. Prices steady. Health good.
Bhartpur	No report received.
Uwar (March 31st)	Health good. Rabi being harvested. Prices falling.

REPORTS ON THE STATE OF THE SEASON AND PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS FOR THE WEEK ENDING 8th APRIL 1885.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Bombay—(April 8th)		
Karachi ..	29, average of 3 other stations, 16.	River at Kotri on 6th, 8 feet 9 inches against 5 feet 7 inches on same date last year. Fever in 6 and cattle-disease in 2 talukas. Bati blight in Shahbandar taluka; 32 cases of cholera in Ghorabari; 21 deaths, 13 remaining; in Sakro 165 cases, 100 deaths, 121 remaining sick; and in Shahbandar 12 cases, 12 deaths; 1 case of small-pox remaining in Karachi; disease in 52 villages in the district; 101 fresh cases, 74 deaths, 78 remaining. Prices of wheat, red rice, and <i>bajri</i> in Marjband 32, 36 and 45, in Sakro 18, 40 and 46, and in Shahbandar 22, 40, and 44 pounds per rupee, respectively.
Hyderabad ..	Rain at Hula, on the 1st instant, 15; Kandhar, on 30th and 31st March, 14.	Wheat harvesting general. River at Kotri on 6th, 8 feet 9 inches against 5 feet 7 inches on same date last year. Fever in 5, small-pox in 5 talukas, measles in Hyderabad, and cattle-disease in 4 talukas; cholera disappeared at Tanis Muhammadkhan from 4th. Wheat 20, <i>juari</i> 40, <i>bajri</i> 39, white rice 20, and red rice 28 pounds per rupee.
Ahmedabad ..	— ..	Reaping of <i>rabi</i> crops nearly completed. Wheat 38 and <i>bajri</i> 38 pounds per rupee.
Baroda ..	.....	Public health good. Rabi harvesting nearly completed. Prices,— <i>bajri</i> 34 and rice 24 pounds per rupee.
Surat ..	.....	Rabi harvest and cotton-picking continue. Cholera in Surat, Jalalpur, Chhorasi, and Ohpal; 95 cases, 46 deaths. <i>Juari</i> 41 and <i>agali</i> 40 pounds per rupee.
Nasik ..	.....	Rabi crops reaped. Public health generally good; cholera in parts of Niphad, Mahgaon, and Baghan talukas; 75 attacks, 25 deaths. Wheat 40, <i>bajri</i> 37, and rice 24 pounds per rupee.
Colaba (Bombay)	.....	Temperature normal. Vapour in air excessive on 1st and 2nd; defective on 7th, abnormal wind northerly on 2nd, 3rd, 6th and 7th.
Poona ..	.....	Slight small-pox in 3 talukas; cholera in Khed and Haveli talukas; 43 cases, fatal 5. <i>Bajri</i> 34 and <i>juari</i> 42; in Poona— <i>bajri</i> 32 and <i>juari</i> 35 pounds per rupee.
Ahmednagar ..	Nagar, 08	Fever in Jamkhed; cholera in Shevgaon, 2 attacks. <i>Juari</i> 72 to 49 pounds, and <i>bajri</i> 40 to 35 pounds per rupee.
Bholapur ..	Barsi, 20; Karmula, 24.	Rabi harvest completed. <i>Juari</i> 51 pounds 33 tolas, and <i>bajri</i> 39 pounds 19 tolas per rupee.
Dharwar ..	.....	Harvesting of late <i>juari</i> nearly completed; cotton-picking in progress. Scarcity of drinking-water in 7, and of fodder in 3 talukas. Small-pox in 3 talukas. Rice 20 to 32 and <i>juari</i> 38 to 64 pounds per rupee.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Bombay—contd.		
Kanara	Supa, 28	Small-pox—4 deaths in Sirsi, 3 in Supa, and 1 in Siddapur; fever in Hanore and Siddapur; cattle disease in Karwar and Supa. Second crop harvest continues. Common rice in Karwar 14, district average 14½ seers per rupee. Weather hot.
Rajkot	.....	General health good. Weather warm and cloudy. Slight shower of rain on the 5th. Small-pox abating in Dhrol. Bajri 34 and jowar 4½ pounds per rupee.
<i>General Remarks.</i> —Slight rain in parts of 11 districts. Rabi harvest in progress in several districts; wheat injured by rust in part of Siddapur and standing crops by blight in 1 taluka of Karachi. Scarcity of fodder continues in 3 talukas of Dharwar and that of drinking-water in 7 talukas of Dharwar and one of Belgaum. Cholera and cattle-disease in parts of eight; fever in parts of eleven, and small-pox in parts of fourteen districts.		
Bengal—(April 8th)		
Chittagong	Nil	Weather reasonable. Prospects of crops fair; prices of food-grains stationary. Public health good, though sporadic cases of cholera continue.
Dacca	Nil	Prospects of crops good; <i>cheena</i> , <i>kuan</i> and <i>til</i> are thriving; sowing and ploughing continues. The rain which fell in the Moushgunj subdivision has much benefited standing crops. Several cases of small-pox are reported from the town.
24 Pargunnahs (Calcutta)	Nil	Lands being ploughed. Price of common rice varies from 13½ to 17½ seers per rupee. Public health generally good, though sporadic cases of cholera reported. State of river normal.
Moorshedabad	Nil	Weather hot and dry. Outturn of <i>rabi</i> crops generally fair; ploughing for early paddy and <i>til</i> commenced; rain much wanted. Public health continues good.
Rajshahye	.....	No report received.
Burduwan	Nil	No crops on the ground. Rain wanted. Price of rice 13½ to 18 seers per rupee.
Buagpore	18	Sowing of early paddy going on. Prices of food-grains stationary. Some sporadic cases of cholera still continue.
Bhagalpur	Nil	Harvesting of <i>rabi</i> crops continues; <i>cheena</i> and <i>haro</i> paddy being sown; prospects of mango not good. Price of rice 14½ seers per rupee.
Burdesh	Nil	A little of <i>rabi</i> crops on the ground; rain wanted; harvesting of <i>rabi</i> , sowing of <i>india</i> and ploughing continues. Common rice 16 seers per rupee. Health good. Rivers very low.
Feroza	Nil	Harvesting of wheat and barley still continues; reaping of <i>rotar</i> being pushed on; weighing of opium has commenced. Small-pox prevails in Hissar, and cholera in Salwa thana in Behar subdivision; otherwise public health good.
Darbhanga	Nil	Harvesting of <i>rabi</i> crops nearly completed; <i>munja</i> and early paddy being sown; rain wanted. Prices rising. Public health good.
Hazaribagh	Nil	Weather hot with high west winds. <i>Rabi</i> crops nearly all reaped; lands being ploughed. Small-pox continues in a few places, otherwise general health good.
Cuttack	Not given	Weather very hot and cloudy at times. <i>Dalua</i> being reaped. Price of rice stationary. Public health generally good; sporadic cases of cholera and small-pox still continue.
Mednapur	Nil	Weather hot. Agricultural operations stopped.
Kucana	Nil	Weather, mornings and evenings cool, days hot. Ploughing continues; <i>haro</i> paddy going fairly well. Prices of food-grains stationary. Cholera very prevalent in one outpost; public health generally good.
Dumagpur	Nil	Weather hot. Lands being prepared for <i>bhadai</i> crops. Rice 16 seers per rupee. Sporadic cases of cholera reported from most parts of the district, and cattle-disease from the south.
Purnea (Berajgunj)	.....	No report received.
Gys	Nil	Weather hot. Outturn of <i>rabi</i> crops varies from 11 to 14 annas. Prices slightly falling. Public health good, except in Nowada, where fever prevails and cholera has appeared.
Chumparan	Nil	Public crops still being reaped; weighing of opium commenced. Some cases of cholera reported from the interior, otherwise public health good.
<i>General Remarks.</i> —Some rain fell in a few districts. It has benefited standing crops and facilitated ploughing, but rain is generally wanted. Scarcity of drinking-water is felt in Meerbluam. Sowing of early paddy has commenced in some districts. There is still a little of <i>rabi</i> crops on the ground, which are being reaped. Prices of food-grains show a slight advance in a few districts, otherwise they are almost stationary. Cholera and small-pox prevail in many districts.		
N.W. Provinces and Oudh—(April 9th)		
Banaras (April 7th)	No rain	Heat increasing. <i>Rabi</i> crops cut, and ready for threshing; outturn of wheat eleven annas, of other crops fair average. Bazaars well-supplied; very slight alteration in prices. No sickness of men or cattle.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
N.-W. Provinces and Oudh—contd.		
Gorakhpur (April 6th)	No rain	Harvesting completed; threshing in progress; poppy weighments begun. Prices almost stationary.
Fyzabad (" 7th)	No rain	Weather hot. Crops nearly harvested; outturn good; poppy yield good; supplies ample. Prices steady. Small-pox in part of district.
Lucknow (" ")	1 in tahsil Mohanlal-gunge on the 3rd instant.	Strong west wind continues. Threshing and winnowing in progress; new grain coming into market; opium collection nearly finished; outturn good; markets well-supplied. Prices stationary. Condition both of men and cattle good.
Rae Bareilly (" 4th)	.....	Weather reasonable, but at times cloudy; high westerly wind. Threshing of <i>rahi</i> crops in progress. Prices almost stationary. General health good.
Partabgarh (" 7th)	.....	The <i>rahi</i> crops are, on the whole, an average one. Prices steady. Health good.
Allahabad ( " " )	.....	Harvesting nearly completed. Weather reasonable. Prospects excellent. Prices slightly fallen.
Cawnpore (" 6th)	.....	Weather warm. Harvesting of <i>rahi</i> nearly completed and grain being brought to threshing floor; sowings of indigo, sugarcane, and other crops in hand; opium collections nearly over and yield free. Small-pox in two parganas. Prices steady. Cattle in good condition.
Banda (" 8th)	.....	Weather cloudy. Reaping nearly completed. Prices steady. No distress.
Ballia (" 6th)	.....	Weather hot; strong west wind. Harvesting nearly completed; sugarcane sprouting in some places; in figs sowing commenced. Markets well-supplied. A slight fluctuation in prices. Condition of men and cattle good.
Perakhabad (" 7th)	.....	Harvesting in progress; average yield expected. Prices stationary. Markets well-supplied. Health of people fair.
Sitapur ( " " )	.....	Strong westerly winds have prevailed during the week. Harvesting progresses, and outturn said to be much about the average; fodder plentiful. Health of people good.
Bareilly (" 6th)	.....	Crops about half cut. Prices falling. Public health continues good.
Moradabad ( " " )	.....	No report received.
Kanunpur ( " " )	.....	Weather cloudy with little rain; more rain required. <i>Rahi</i> being reaped in villages; <i>khari</i> sowing progressing; in places germinated. Prices stationary. Health good.
Agra (" 7th)	Slight shower at Sadr last evening.	Harvesting of <i>rahi</i> crops progressing. Prices steady. Slight sporadic cholera continues.
Jhansi (" ")	Slight showers on 1st instant, in pargana Motn.	Weather at times cloudy. <i>Rahi</i> being cut and threshed; opium nearly all collected. Prices nearly unchanged. One case of cholera at new Jhansi on 5th.
Aligarh ( " " )	.....	No report received.
Meerut (" 6th)	Slight rain all over district on 1st instant.	Weather generally cloudy. Harvest in full sowing; prospects excellent. Prices steady. Health good.
Saharanpore ( " " )	.....	No report received.
General Remarks. —Slight showers have fallen in some districts, otherwise weather is reasonable. Harvesting in progress; a good outturn expected. Markets are well-supplied and prices generally steady. Public health good; a few cases of cholera reported from Agra and Aligarh.		
Punjab—(April 8th)		
Delhi (" ")	43	Health good. Reaping commenced. Prices fluctuating.
Hissar (" ")	1	<i>Rahi</i> being cut. Health good. Prices slightly rising.
Umballa (" ")	No rain	Health and prospects good. Prices slightly rising.
Jullundur (" ")	6	Health and crop prospects good. Prices rising.
Amritsar (" ")	7	Health and prospects good. Prices rising.
Sialkot (" ")	8	Health and prospects good. Prices slightly rising.
Ferozepore (" ")	Sadr, 4; Ferozepore, 1; Tika, 3; Moga, 1.5; Muktsar, 1.4; Fazilka, 1.6.	Crops damaged by hail in twenty-six villages of tahsil Fazilka and seven villages of Muktsar tahsil. Health good. Prices almost stationary.
Lahore (" ")	7	Health good. State of crops fair. Prices rising.
Rawalpindi (" ")	2.8	Health and <i>rahi</i> prospects good. Prices rising.
Shahpur ( " " )	.....	Rain throughout the district. Health good. Prices rising.
Multan (" ")	Sadr, 5	Health and prospects good. Prices slightly rising.
Dera Ismail Khan (" ")	31	Health and prospects good.
Peshawar (" ")	5.3	Standing crops affected thereby. Health good. Prices rising.
General Remarks. —Rain general throughout the province, except at Umballa. Crops damaged by hail in Fazilka and Muktsar tahsils and Ferozepore district, and by excessive rain in the Peshawar district. Health good. Prices rising.		
Central Provinces—(April 8th)		
Nagpur ( " " )	.....	Weather clear and hot. <i>Rahi</i> harvest short of expectations in places. Small-pox in Nagpur tahsil. Prices steady.
Jubbulpore ( " " )	.....	Weather cloudy and hot. Reaping continues; state of crops unchanged. Health good. Wheat 24, rice 16 seers per rupee.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Central Provinces— contd.		
Saugor (April 7th)	.....	Weather cloudy. <i>Rabi</i> harvest and general crops favourable, except in low land; wheat not well developed in places. Health good. Prices easy.
Seoni	81	Weather cloudy and settled. Threshing commenced. Small-pox and cattle-disease decreasing; fever increasing. Prices stationary.
Hoshangabad	.....	Weather cloudy. Winnowing in progress. 30 cases of cholera; 11 deaths reported from Harda town. Prices stationary.
Khandwa	15	Weather cloudy and unsettled. Reaping completed. 35 cases of cholera, 19 deaths. Prices stationary.
Raipur	.....	Weather cloudy and hot with some rain and hail. Threshing almost finished. Cholera 11 cases, 4 deaths; cattle-disease in parts. Prices stationary.
Sambalpur (April 4th)	27	Weather cloudy and warm. Sugarcane sowing in progress. Cholera in places. Prices stationary.
General Remarks. —The weather has been cloudy and unsettled with occasional violent storms of wind and rain, which have interrupted threshing. Cholera has extended from the Nivaur into the Hoshangabad district; it is occurring sporadically in Sambalpur, Bilaspur, and Raipur.		
British Burma— (April 8th)		
Akyab	Nil	Cholera in town and in two circles; slight small-pox in town; health of plough-cattle good.
Bassein	Nil	Health good.
Rangoon	Nil	Health good.
Amherst (Moulmein)	Nil	Public health and health of cattle good.
Tavoy	Nil	Public health and health of cattle good.
Pegu	Nil	Public health good; cattle healthy.
Henzada	.....	Small-pox prevalent in town; slight in one township; a few cases of cholera in town.
Prome	Nil	General health good throughout the district; slight cattle-disease.
Toungoo	Nil	Public health and health of cattle good.
Thayetmyo	.....	Slight cholera in town; small-pox prevalent in one township.
General Remarks. —Slight cholera and small-pox here and there; public health generally good; health of cattle generally good. No rainfall.		
Assam—(April 8th)		
Gauhati	68	Weather hot. Cutting of sugarcane finished; prospects of <i>aus</i> crop good, but dry weather for about a fortnight is necessary to facilitate sowing operations. Public health fair.
Sylhet	216	State and prospects of crop good. Cattle-disease prevailing in South Sylhet; cholera and small-pox in parts of the district.
Cachar	519	Weather warm. Ploughing for <i>dhumka</i> and <i>maruti</i> crops commenced in some parts of the district. Common rice 17½ seers per rupee. 8 deaths from cholera from Sadr and one from Huilakandi reported.
Dibrugarh	158	Weather cool. <i>Ahu dhan</i> being sown. District healthy.
Mysore and Coorg— (April 8th)		
Bangalore	.....	Some paddy and sugarcane reported to be withering. Pasturage and water scarce; cattle suffering from disease in parts; public health generally good; cholera slight in parts of the Mysore and Kolar districts; no material change in prices.
Berar & Hyderabad— (April 8th)		
Amraoti	.....	Heat increasing daily. Threshing of <i>rabi</i> crops continues. Wheat 22 and <i>juari</i> 26 seers per rupee.
Akolia	.....	Weather warm. <i>Rabi</i> harvest almost completed; ploughing operations commenced.
Hyderabad	Nil	<i>Rabi</i> reaping concluded; <i>tobi</i> crops prospering. General health fair. Prices—wheat 14, coarse rice 10½, white <i>juari</i> 18½, yellow <i>juari</i> 23, and <i>tur</i> 17½ seers per current sicca rupee.
Central India States— (April 8th)		
Indore	14	Weather cloudy and muggy; rain threatening. Health good. Prices steady.
Morar (Gwalior)	20	Health good. Weather reasonable.
Sitona	.....	Weather hot. Health and prospects good.
Neemuch	A few drops of rain slight rain	Sky cloudy. <i>Rabi</i> harvest favourable. Health good.
Guons		Weather cloudy. Health good. Harvesting continues.
Agar		Severe outbreak of epidemic cholera at Ujjain. Prospects good.
Sehore	66	Weather cloudy. Opium crop injured, other crops good. Health good.
Nowgong	47	Weather reasonable. Health fair. Prices stationary.
Maunpur (Bhopawar)	Nil	Prospects good.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under Report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Rajputana—		
Abu (April 8th)	Slight rain	Weather cloudy with thunder, now clear; unseasonably cold and chilly
Sirohi (" 5th)	.....	Tanks dry; wells good. Health good. Dull and cloudy.
Marwar	.....	No report received.
Mewwar ( " " )	.....	Weather cool. Sky cloudy. Wells and tanks very good. Crops harvested.
Harowti (" 4th)	Slight showers on 31st March.	Weather cloudy and dark. Grain being threshed. Measles in Tonk.
Jhallawar (" 3rd)	Showers in some parts.	Weather cloudy and sultry.
Ajmere (" 7th)	Nil	One fatal case of cholera; health otherwise good. Reaping harvest.
Jaypore (" ")	Slight rain	Weather cloudy. 8 deaths from cholera reported from Dausa, otherwise health normal.
Bhurlpore	.....	No report received.
Ulwari ( " " )	.....	Weather cloudy. Prices falling. Slight cholera in three tahsils, otherwise health good.

ABSTRACT SHOWING THE RESULT OF EMIGRATION FROM THE PORT OF CALCUTTA DURING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 1885.

No. I.—As to Age and Sex.

	Fiji.				FRENCH W. I. COLONIES.				TOTAL.		GRAND TOTAL.
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Proportion of women to men.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Proportion of women to men.	Males.	Females.	
Under 2 years	12	20	32	39.25 women to every 100 men.	10	8	18	44.44 women to every 100 men.	22	28	50
From 2 to 10 years	34	21	55		23	8	31		57	29	86
" 10 " 20 "	96	31	127		68	23	91		158	54	212
" 20 " 30 "	332	138	470		242	106	348		574	244	818
" 30 " 40 "	34	9	43		6	1	7		40	10	50
" 40 " 50 "	...	...	...		...	...	...		...	...	...
Above 50 "	...	1	1		...	...	...		...	1	1
GRAND TOTAL	502	220	722		349	146	495		851	366	1,217

No. II.—As to places whence emigrants come to Calcutta for embarkation.

	Fiji.				FRENCH W. I. COLONIES.				TOTAL.		GRAND TOTAL.
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Proportion of women to men.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Proportion of women to men.	Males.	Females.	
Orissa	1	...	1		...	...	...		1	...	1
Western Bengal	7	11	18		...	1	1		7	12	19
Central ditto	4	14	18		...	...	...		4	14	18
Eastern ditto	1	...	1		...	...	...		1	...	1
Behar	172	83	255		167	72	239		339	155	494
North-Western Provinces	181	65	246		122	56	178		303	121	424
Oudh	89	22	111		46	13	59		135	35	170
Central India	2	2	4		6	1	7		8	3	11
Punjab	5	4	9		4	2	6		9	6	15
Nepal	21	5	26		2	1	3		23	6	29
Mixed, Madras and Bombay, &c.	10	4	14		2	...	2		12	4	16
GRAND TOTAL	502	220	722		349	146	495		851	366	1,217

No. III.—As to caste and religion.

				Fiji			FRENCH W. I. COLONIES.			TOTAL.		GRAND TOTAL.
Bramins, high caste	...	...	...	113	45	164	76	26	102	195	71	266
Agriculturist	...	} Hindoos	...	103	39	142	78	34	112	181	73	254
Artisans	...		...	87	41	128	50	22	72	143	63	206
Low castes	...		...	102	54	156	94	39	133	196	93	289
Musalmans	...	...	...	91	40	131	45	25	70	136	65	201
Christians	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	1
GRAND TOTAL				502	220	722	349	140	495	851	366	1,217

Memo.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
1. Hindoos	715	300	1,015
2. Musalmans	136	65	201
3. Christians	...	1	1
TOTAL	851	366	1,217

E. C. BUCK,
Secy. to the Govt. of India.



SUPPLEMENT TO
The Gazette of India.

N^o 16. }

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 1885.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.
RAILWAY TRAFFIC.

No. XLVI of 1884-85.

APPROXIMATE STATEMENT OF GROSS RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES OF INDIAN RAILWAYS.

STATE RAILWAYS OF INDIA.													
Return required.	Railways.	Total mean length open.	RECEIPTS FOR WEEK ENDING 1ST MARCH 1885.		Total mean length open.	RECEIPTS FOR WEEK ENDING 28TH FEBRUARY 1885.		TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM 1ST APRIL 1884 TO 1ST MARCH 1885.		TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM 1ST APRIL 1884 TO 28TH FEBRUARY 1885.		Total Increase in 1884-85.	Total Decrease in 1884-85.
			Total.	Per mile open.		Total.	Per mile open.	Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total.	Per mile open per week.		
			R	R		R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
Guaranteed.													
Mar. 1885	Ondh and Rohilkhand	547	1,10,669	202	594	1,10,765	186	53,94,148	202	46,02,170	170		6,85,978
ditto	Sind, Punjab, and Delhi	754	1,00,328	262	706	2,55,847	362	1,00,97,017	283	98,73,837	289		2,23,180
ditto	Madras	861	1,45,314	169	861	1,51,935	180	62,60,296	151	66,51,034	160		2,80,738
ditto	South Indian	655	76,755	117	654	1,31,031	201	36,65,511	117	38,60,106	124		1,91,595
ditto	Great Indian Peninsula	1,438	6,21,819	426	1,504	9,09,459	605	3,04,21,801	435	3,09,98,880	432		5,77,079
ditto	Bombay, Baroda, and Central India.	461	2,61,746	568	461	2,37,677	516	1,05,98,591	479	1,05,38,456	479		60,135
	TOTAL	4,736	14,08,631	297	4,780	18,00,324	377	6,63,37,364	292	6,64,30,483	292	92,119	
State.													
Mar. 1885	East Indian	1,509	9,87,057	654	1,509	9,54,030	633	4,63,26,301	639	3,85,35,038	535		77,90,263
ditto	Eastern Bengal	233	87,380	375	233	1,04,484	419	47,01,719	458	49,32,182	474	2,30,463	
ditto	Norbati	27	1,735	65	27	1,660	61	73,085	56	70,000	54		3,085
ditto	Northern Bengal	239	46,103	193	249	43,490	175	19,88,241	175	20,16,109	169	27,868	
ditto	Kannia-Dharia	32	4,189	131	37	3,394	89	1,28,814	84	1,36,827	80	8,013	
ditto	Tirhoot	193	20,267	105	226	24,476	110	8,66,672	94	11,36,000	106	2,70,228	
ditto	Patna-Gya.	67	6,297	145	67	13,353	232	4,14,375	151	4,81,708	176	67,333	
ditto	Cawnpore-Achnera	128	12,211	88	249	18,007	72	5,28,186	81	8,86,887	72	3,08,701	
ditto	Dildarnagar-Ghazipur	12	870	73	12	1,176	98	43,128	75	43,926	71	708	
ditto	Rajputana-Malwa	1,119	2,74,686	245	1,120	3,07,060	274	1,20,65,150	225	1,14,90,982	215	5,74,168	
ditto	Rewari-Ferozepur	140	13,696	99	201	21,320	73	3,89,833	83	7,85,779	85	3,95,946	
ditto	Wardha-Coal	45	14,607	325	45	23,945	533	6,89,179	319	6,11,930	285	77,249	
ditto	Nagpur and Chhattisgarh	149	27,024	181	149	37,377	251	11,37,675	159	11,89,742	167	52,067	
ditto	British Burma	161	53,538	333	254	69,408	273	14,21,640	184	18,49,409	180	4,27,769	
ditto	Sindia	76	7,729	103	76	9,724	130	3,21,993	90	3,44,939	97	22,945	
ditto	Punjab Northern	447	55,118	123	447	73,843	165	29,18,036	143	29,78,916	139	60,890	
ditto	Indus Valley	680	88,898	135	640	2,24,000	349	63,37,470	200	71,81,273	238	8,43,803	
ditto	Amritsar-Pathankot	61	3,556	70	66	5,342	81	(a)22,811	58	2,04,240	69	1,81,429	
ditto	Bareilly-Pilibhit				36	1,955	46			(b)13,143	21	13,142	
ditto	Nardanganj - Dacca				10	1,370	137			(c)10,444	181	10,444	
ditto	Myemangh				23	331	14			(d)3,511	17	3,511	
ditto	Kokilamukh												
	TOTAL	3,778	7,19,519	191	4,266	9,86,380	231	3,40,48,008	194	3,63,18,846	186	22,70,888	
GRAND TOTAL (GUARANTEED AND STATE)													
		10,023	31,13,507	311	10,555	37,40,743	354	14,67,11,673	309	14,12,85,267	286		54,26,406
ESTIMATED EXPENSES													
								7,22,23,973	152	7,32,14,311	148		
NET RECEIPTS													
								7,44,87,700	157	6,80,70,956	138		84,16,744
Assisted Companies.													
Mar. 1885	Bengal Central	114	6,460	57	136	10,507	83	1,20,615	60	4,35,845	73	3,15,230	
ditto	Rohilkhand and Kumaon				67	3,269	34			(d)34,621	30	34,620	
ditto	Assam	40	1,878	47	78	4,694	60	58,857	45	2,07,814	64	1,48,957	
ditto	Southern Mahratta				214	9,413	44			2,76,011	39	2,76,011	
ditto	Bengal and North-Western				303	27,630	92			1,84,872	85	1,84,872	
ditto	Tarakour				33	6,080	276			(e)49,353	265	49,353	
	TOTAL	154	8,338	54	810	60,796	75	1,79,472	54	11,89,516	49	10,09,044	
Native States.													
Mar. 1885	Bhavnagar-Gondal	193	18,423	95	193	21,570	112	8,27,380	69	10,13,263	110	1,85,882	
ditto	Jodhpur	19	1,128	59	44	1,900	43	38,909	43	67,739	37	28,930	
ditto	Nizam's	121	16,602	137	121	21,189	175	8,01,074	138	8,98,584	155	94,490	
Feb. 1885	Mysore	87	5,078	58	140	7,630	55	2,85,478	68	3,43,885	62	58,407	
Mar. 1885	Rajpura-Patiala				16	861	64			(e)11,596	43	11,596	
	TOTAL	420	41,230	98	514	53,176	103	19,55,861	97	23,35,066	104	3,79,206	

A.B.—As regards the figures in column "Total receipts from 1st April 1884 to date," audited figures have been availed of as far as possible.
(a) Total receipts from 1st January to 1st March 1884.
(b) Ditto ditto 15th October 1884 to 25th February 1885.

(c) Total receipts from 1st January to 25th February 1885.
(d) Ditto ditto 2nd November 1884 to 25th February 1885.
(e) Ditto ditto 1st November 1884 to 31st February 1885.

SIMLA,
7th April 1885.

FRED. FIREBRACE, Major, R.E.,
Under-Secretary.

No. XLVII of 1884-85.

APPROXIMATE STATEMENT OF GROSS RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES OF INDIAN RAILWAYS.

Latest return received	Railways.	Total length open.	RECEIPTS FOR WEEK ENDING 5TH MARCH 1884.		Total length open.	RECEIPTS FOR WEEK ENDING 7TH MARCH 1885.		TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM 1ST APRIL 1884 TO 5TH MARCH 1885.		TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM 1ST APRIL 1884 TO 7TH MARCH 1885.		Total increase in 1884-85.	Total decrease in 1884-85.
			Total.	Per mile open.		Total.	Per mile open.	Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total.	Per mile open per week.		
	Guaranteed.												
26th Mar. 1885	Oudh and Rohilkhand.	547	1,18,874	217	594	88,055	148	54,18,093	202	47,01,827	170	...	71,86
29th ditto	Sindh, Punjab, and Delhi.	754	2,07,200	275	706	2,67,806	379	1,08,04,267	283	1,01,23,843	288	2,05,140	...
21st ditto	Madras.	961	1,38,951	161	861	1,41,711	165	68,99,247	162	66,94,947	160	2,43,186	...
21st ditto	South Indian.	653	77,300	118	654	1,13,231	173	87,42,811	117	89,85,997	125	6,52,699	...
21st ditto	Great Indian Peninsula.	1,458	7,08,035	486	1,504	7,73,227	514	3,11,39,836	436	3,17,82,435	434	...	1,12,2
21st ditto	Bombay, Baroda, and Central India.	461	2,61,036	610	461	2,16,658	470	1,06,79,627	482	1,07,67,349	480	...	...
	TOTAL	4,736	16,31,446	323	4,780	16,10,738	335	6,78,68,810	295	6,80,54,838	294	1,86,028	...
	State.												
26th Mar. 1885	East Indian.	1,509	9,47,273	623	1,509	8,70,716	577	4,72,73,574	639	3,94,06,654	536	...	78,66,9
21st ditto	Eastern Bengal.	233	97,686	419	233	98,652	423	47,93,415	458	50,33,575	474	2,34,160	...
28th ditto	Nalhati.	27	1,631	60	27	1,309	48	74,715	56	71,844	54	...	...
21st ditto	Northern Bengal.	239	32,943	138	249	27,140	109	20,21,224	174	20,34,940	167	13,716	...
21st ditto	Kaunia-Dharia.	32	4,268	133	37	3,375	91	1,33,072	85	1,40,065	80	6,993	...
26th ditto	Tirhoot.	193	20,149	104	226	23,211	103	8,86,821	94	11,00,207	106	2,73,386	...
28th ditto	Patna-Gya.	57	9,671	169	57	10,704	187	4,24,046	161	4,92,412	176	68,366	...
28th ditto	Cawnpore-Achnera.	138	11,887	86	240	16,111	65	5,40,073	61	8,52,998	71	3,12,925	...
21st ditto	Dildarnagar-Ghazipur.	12	958	80	12	811	68	41,086	75	41,787	76	681	...
28th ditto	Rajputana-Mulwa.	1,119	2,70,830	242	1,120	2,80,400	250	1,23,35,980	225	1,27,67,563	216	...	5,68,
21st ditto	Rewari-Ferozepur.	140	13,446	103	291	23,080	81	4,04,279	83	3,09,932	85	4,05,653	...
28th ditto	Wardha Coal.	45	16,897	376	...	(a)	...	(b)6,89,179	319	(c)6,11,380	285	52,655	77,
21st Mar. 1885	Nagpur & Chhattisgarh.	149	34,054	229	149	32,895	221	11,89,982	160	12,22,637	168	4,22,052	...
21st ditto	British Burma.	161	65,986	410	254	60,249	237	14,87,606	189	19,09,658	162	2,03,1	...
21st ditto	Sindia.	75	8,339	111	75	8,428	112	3,30,333	90	3,53,367	97	68,132	...
28th ditto	Punjab Northern.	447	61,340	137	447	68,592	153	29,79,376	143	30,47,508	139	9,29,444	...
21st ditto	Indus Valley.	660	1,10,041	167	660	2,01,500	305	64,57,190	200	73,85,634	230	1,83,346	...
21st ditto	Amritsar-Patankot.	51	2,999	59	66	4,761	72	(d)25,810	53	2,40,166	69	1,83,346	...
28th ditto	Bareilly-Pilibhit.	...	...	...	36	1,231	34	...	...	(e)18,653	29	18,653	...
21st ditto	Narayanganj Dacca.	...	...	...	10	1,310	131	...	...	(f)11,754	181	11,754	...
21st ditto	Mymensingh.	...	...	...	23	306	13	...	...	(g)3,817	16	3,817	...
14th ditto	Kozikamukh.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	TOTAL	3,778	7,64,145	203	4,221	8,64,655	208	3,48,03,187	195	3,71,31,887	197	23,78,700	...
	GRAND TOTAL (GUARANTEED AND STATE)	10,023	32,42,864	324	10,810	33,36,109	317	14,99,45,571	309	14,46,43,379	286	...	53,02
	GROSS ESTIMATED EXPENSES	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,37,43,905	152	7,47,25,461	148	...	...
	NET RECEIPTS	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,62,01,666	157	6,99,17,918	138	...	62,83
	Assisted Companies.												
21st Mar. 1885	Bengal Central.	114	7,514	66	126	12,199	97	1,23,129	61	4,48,144	74	3,20,017	...
21st ditto	Rohilkhand & Kunson.	...	...	...	67	1,903	29	...	...	(g)37,307	31	37,307	...
21st ditto	Assam.	40	1,811	45	78	4,572	58	60,068	44	2,12,336	68	1,51,668	...
14th ditto	Southern Mahratta.	...	...	...	214	6,984	42	...	...	2,84,095	88	2,84,095	...
21st ditto	Bengal & North-Western.	...	...	...	303	23,420	77	...	...	2,08,292	40	2,08,292	...
28th ditto	Tarakanur.	...	...	...	22	5,647	257	...	...	(e)55,000	205	55,000	...
	TOTAL	154	9,325	61	810	56,675	70	1,88,797	54	12,46,076	50	10,57,279	...
	Native States.												
21st Mar. 1885	Bhavnagar Gondal.	198	19,799	102	198	20,387	106	8,47,119	90	10,33,697	110	1,86,978	...
21st ditto	Jodhpore.	19	989	49	44	2,610	46	89,448	43	69,749	42	20,901	...
21st ditto	Nizam's.	121	18,306	151	121	18,204	150	8,22,400	139	9,86,187	152	73,737	...
21st ditto	Mysore.	57	5,713	66	140	7,688	55	2,91,191	68	3,51,573	62	60,363	...
28th ditto	Hajipura-Patiala.	...	...	...	16	702	44	...	...	(A)12,351	43	12,351	...
	TOTAL	420	44,607	106	514	49,091	96	20,00,558	97	23,62,907	103	3,62,349	...

N.B.—As regards the figures in columns "Total Receipts from 1st April 1884 to date," assisted figures have been availed of as far as possible.
 (a) Return not received.
 (b) Total receipts from 1st April 1885 to 1st March 1886.
 (c) Total receipts from 1st April 1884 to 30th February 1885.

(d) Total receipts from 1st January to 5th March 1885.
 (e) Total receipts from 14th October 1884 to 7th March 1885.
 (f) Total receipts from 1st January to 7th March 1885.
 (g) Total receipts from 2nd November 1884 to 7th March 1885.

FRED. FIREBRACE, Major, R.E.,
 Under Secretary

SIMLA,
 The 13th April 1885.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

REPORTS ON THE STATE OF THE SEASON AND PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS FOR THE WEEK ENDING 13th APRIL 1885.

GENERAL REMARKS.—Slight showers have fallen throughout the Madras Presidency, Mysore, in several districts in Bombay, and the Central Provinces. In the North-Western Provinces and Oudh and the Punjab rain has fallen in a few districts. Light rain is also reported from some of the Central India and Rajputana States. In Bengal there has been rain in some districts, and in Assam the fall continues to be generally heavy.

In Madras the standing crops are generally in fair condition, but in Mysore prospects are reported to be still uncertain. In Coorg rain is much wanted for the coffee blossoms.

The *robi* harvest has been nearly completed in most districts in the Bombay Presidency, and preparations for the *kharif* have commenced in places. Scarcity of drinking-water continues to exist in parts of Dharwar and Belgaum, and of fodder in parts of Dharwar.

In Central India and Rajputana harvesting is going on, and prospects are generally good. The *robi* harvest has commenced in the Punjab, and promises well. In the North-Western Provinces and Oudh and the Central Provinces harvesting, threshing, and winnowing are in progress. In the former an average outturn is expected.

In Bengal the *robi* harvest, which has been nearly completed, has yielded a good outturn on the whole. Ploughing is in progress and sowing of early paddy and jute has commenced in some places. Ploughing and sowing continue in Assam, and prospects are generally favourable.

Cholera and small-pox are reported from parts of Madras, Bombay, Bengal, the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, and British Burma; otherwise the public health is generally good.

Prices are fluctuating in Bengal and the Punjab; elsewhere they are generally stationary.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rain-fall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Madras—(April 8th)		
Bellary ..	Nil	Standing crops dry generally and wet in parts; withering from want of rain; harvest paddy, sugarcane and cotton, yield below average. Fever and small-pox exist; 8 deaths from cholera.
Karnool ..	Nil	Standing crops good, except in one division and in parts of three taluks, where they have withered from want of rain; harvest cotton, outturn half, and small-pox and cattle-disease prevalent.
Ganjam ..	03 (average)	Cholera, fever, and cattle-disease prevalent.
Kistna ..	18 (average)	Standing crops good. Fever, small-pox, and cattle-disease exist; 41 deaths from cholera.
Chingleput (Madras) ..	Nil	Standing crops good, except in parts of two taluks where they are withering from want of water; harvest paddy and <i>raggi</i> , outturn below half the average. Small-pox and cattle-disease exist; 2 deaths from cholera.
Coimbatore ..	Nil	Standing crops—wet, good, except in three taluks, where they require rain; dry crops little standing; harvest wet and dry grains, outturn about average. Fever exists, 8 deaths from cholera.
Tanjore ..	Nil	Standing crops good, except in parts damaged by late rain and floods; harvest wet and dry grains, outturn below average. Cholera abating, 97 deaths.
Madras ..	Nil	Outturn of harvest unsatisfactory. Fever prevalent.
Malabar ..	01 (average)	Third rice crop cultivation progressing. Small-pox prevalent; fever exists; cattle-disease slight; 14 deaths from cholera.
Travancore ..	06	Small-pox and fever exist.
General Remarks. —General prospects fair, except in parts of Bellary and Anantapur.		
Madras—(April 16th)		
Bellary ..	08 (average)	Standing crops, wet moderately good, but withering in parts; harvest sugarcane, Bengal gram, and cotton, yield below average. 14 deaths from cholera.
Karnool ..	07 (average)	Standing crops good; harvest paddy and cotton, yield half. Small-pox and cattle-disease prevalent.
Ganjam ..	00 (average)	Cholera, fever, small-pox, and cattle-disease prevalent.
Kistna ..	01 (average)	Standing crops good. Fever and small-pox exist, 36 deaths from cholera.
Chingleput (Madras) ..	Nil	Standing crops good, except in parts of two taluks, where they are withering from want of water; harvest paddy and <i>raggi</i> , yield below half. Small-pox and cattle-disease exist; 3 deaths from cholera.
Coimbatore ..	15 (average)	Standing crops, wet good, except in one taluk, where water is wanted; dry crops little standing; harvest wet and dry grains, yield about average. Fever exists; 35 deaths from cholera.
Tanjore ..	01 (average)	Standing crops good, except in parts of three taluks, where they want rain; harvest paddy and dry grains, outturn up to average. 75 deaths from cholera.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Madras—contd.		
Madura	For week ending 8th April 1885, '11 (average) For week ending 16th April 1885, '07 (average). '31 (average)	Outturn of harvest unsatisfactory. Fever prevalent; 4 deaths from cholera.
Malabar		Third rice crop cultivation progressing. Small-pox prevalent; fever exist; cattle-disease slight; 9 deaths from cholera.
Travancore		Small-pox and fever exist. <i>General Remarks.</i> —General prospects fair, except in parts of Bellary and Anantapur.
Bombay—(April 15th)		
Karachi	Rain in Johi, '98; average of 13 other stations, '17.	Weather cloudy. Fever in eight talukas; cattle-disease in Manjhand; loss of 50 cows and bullocks and 50 buffaloes. River very high on 13th, 14 feet 3 inches against 5 feet 7 inches on same date last year. 1 case of small-pox remaining in Karachi, disease in 42 villages in the districts, 71 fresh cases, 12 deaths, 71 remaining; 75 cases of cholera in Sakro, 71 deaths, 121 remaining; in Ghorabari 10 cases, 10 deaths, 6 remaining; in Shahbandur 5 deaths. Wheat, red rice, and <i>bajri</i> in Karachi 26, 28 and 36; in Dadar 36, 32 and 48; in Ghorabari 22, 39 and 86; and in Mirpur Badero 26, 48 and 46 pounds per rupee, respectively.
Hyderabad	Nanchohra, '01; Kandaro, '26 on 4th April 1885.	Wheat harvesting generally completed. Some fields flooded. River at Kotri on 13th, 14 feet 3 inches against 5 feet 7 inches on same date last year. Sporadic cholera at Tanda Muhammadkhan; small-pox and fever in seven and cattle-disease in six talukas; measles in Hyderabad. Wheat 26, <i>juari</i> 40, <i>bajri</i> 40, white rice 20 and red rice 28 pounds per rupee.
Ahmedabad	Nil	Reaping of <i>rahi</i> crops completed; cotton-picking commenced. Wheat 39 and <i>bajri</i> 40 pounds per rupee.
Baroda	Nil	Public health good. Harvesting of <i>rahi</i> crops nearly completed. <i>Bajri</i> 34 and rice 24 pounds per British rupee.
Surat	Nil	<i>Rahi</i> harvest and cotton-picking continue. Cholera in Surat, Choras, Baroli and Gulapur, 80 cases, 40 deaths; cattle-disease in Olpani. <i>Juari</i> 38 and <i>magli</i> 44 pounds per rupee.
Nasik	Nil	<i>Rahi</i> crops reaped. Public health generally good; cholera in parts of Nasik, Malegaon and Baglan, 208 attacks, 74 deaths. Wheat 40, <i>bajri</i> 37 and rice 24 pounds per rupee.
Colaba (Bombay)	A few drops of rain on the morning of the 13th instant.	Average abnormal temperature 1° cool; vapour in air normal, abnormal wind northerly on 8th, 12th and 14th; distant lightning on 9th, 12th, 13th and 14th, and thunder was heard on 13th.
Poona	Heavy shower of rain yesterday.	92 cases of cholera in three talukas, 31 fatal. <i>Bajri</i> 33 and <i>juari</i> 38; in Poona <i>bajri</i> 32 and <i>juari</i> 35 pounds per rupee.
Ahmednagar	Nil	Public health good. <i>Juari</i> 60 to 51 pounds and <i>bajri</i> 48 to 39 pounds per rupee.
Sholapur	39; Barai, '17; Malasra, '15.	Lands being prepared for next season. <i>Juari</i> 49 pounds 30 tolas and <i>bajri</i> 30 pounds 22 tolas per rupee.
Dharwar	Slight rain in five talukas. '14; Navalgund, '15; Mundarg, '10; Rani-bennur, '03; Kod, '05.	Harvesting of late <i>juari</i> nearly completed; cotton-picking in progress; ground being prepared for early crops. Scarcity of drinking-water in seven and of fodder in three talukas. Small-pox in three talukas. Rice 23 to 32 and <i>juari</i> 35 to 64 pounds per rupee.
Kanara	Haliyal, 1.07; Mugud, '04; Sisi, '05.	Small-pox—1 death in Shilapur and 1 in Supat; fever in Honore, Sisi, Yellapur, and Haliyal; cattle-disease prevalent in Karwar and Supat. Second crop of harvest continues. Common rice at Karwar 14, district average 14 cents per rupee.
Rajkot	Nil	General health good. Weather cloudy. Small-pox in four villages of Parbader State. <i>Bajri</i> 33 and <i>juari</i> 43 pounds per rupee.
Bengal—(April 15th)		
Chittagong	'97	<i>General Remarks.</i> —Slight rain in parts of eleven districts. <i>Rahi</i> harvest completed or nearly so in most districts; <i>Rahi</i> preparations commenced in parts of Shalapur and Dinawar; wheat and peas slightly injured by rust in parts of Shikampur, and cotton and <i>juari</i> by rain in one taluka of Balgamin. Scarcity of drinking-water in seven talukas of Dharwar and three of Balgamin and of fodder in three talukas of Dharwar. Fever and cattle-disease in parts of nine and cholera and small-pox in parts of eleven districts.
Dacca	'79	Weather cloudy with high winds. Prospects of crops fair. Prices of food-grains stationary. Sporadic cases of cholera are still reported, otherwise public health good.
24-Pergunnahs (Calcutta)	Not stated	Harvesting of <i>bari</i> partly has commenced; <i>chena</i> , <i>lun</i> and <i>til</i> are thriving; ploughing going on. Small-pox is prevalent in Dacca town and cholera in the district.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Bengal—contd.		
Moorshedabad ...	25	Weather slightly cooler. Gathering of winter crops finished, with fair outturn; more rain wanted for cultivation of early paddy. Public health good, except some sporadic cases of cholera.
Burdwan ...	Some rain fell in the interior.	More rain much wanted still. Price of rice is 13½ to 17½ seers per rupee.
Rungpore ...	63	Weather hot and cloudy. Prospects of early paddy good; sowing of jute still progressing in some places. Prices of food-grains stationary. Sporadic cases of cholera are reported from the interior, otherwise public health good.
Bhagalpur ...	25	Harvesting of <i>rabi</i> crops over; sugarcane, indigo and <i>chenna</i> doing well; prospects of mango not good. <i>Mukura</i> flowers somewhat damaged by winds. Price of rice is 14½ seers per rupee.
Purneah ...	07	<i>Rabi</i> crops generally yielded, fair outturn; sowing of <i>bhadai</i> crops commenced in places. Rain wanted. Common rice is 16 seers per rupee. Health fair. Rivers low; ground unusually dry.
Patna ...	Nil	Harvesting of <i>rabi</i> crops nearly finished; weightment of opium going on; cotton looks well. Public health generally good, except a few cases of cholera and small-pox in Behar sub-division.
Durbhanga ...	04	Harvesting of <i>rabi</i> crops finished. Rain wanted. Prices stationary. Public health good.
Hazaribagh ...	Nil	Weather hot and clear. Cutting of <i>rabi</i> crops almost finished; ploughing continues; prospects of mango poor. Cases of small-pox are still reported from the interior, otherwise public health good.
Cuttack ...	Not stated	Weather hot; mornings foggy. Prospects of <i>dalan</i> good. Price of rice almost stationary. Public health good, but some cases of cholera reported.
Midnapur ...	Nil	Agricultural operations are stopped for want of rain. Public health normal.
Kulna ...	12	Weather dry and hot; storm and hail somewhat damaged <i>boro</i> paddy, <i>oil</i> and mango. In some places ploughing continues. Prices of food-grains stationary. Cholera rather prevalent, and otherwise health good.
Dinagepur ...	Slight rain	Lands being prepared for <i>bhadai</i> crops. Rice is selling at 16 seers per rupee. Several cases of cholera are reported.
Pubna (Serajgunj) ...	Slight rain	Rain badly wanted. Price of rice stationary. Sporadic cases of cholera are reported.
Gya ...	05	Weather hot. Harvesting of <i>rabi</i> crops completed with an outturn varying from 11 annas to 14 annas. Prices not high, but inclined to fall. Public health not good; cholera, fever and small-pox prevail in Nowada sub-division.
Chumpana ...	Nil	Harvesting of <i>rabi</i> crops almost finished; weightment of opium has commenced. Public health fair, though some cases of fever and small-pox are reported.
<i>General Remarks.</i> —Slight rain fell in some districts, but more rain is much wanted generally. Ploughing is going on, but is retarded in certain districts for want of rain; harvesting of <i>rabi</i> crops is nearly finished with a good outturn on the whole; early paddy and jute are being sown in a few districts; harvesting of <i>boro</i> paddy has commenced in two districts. A storm which occurred on the 29th ultimo in the district of Tipperah greatly damaged property and caused some loss of life. Prices of food grains show a slight advance in a few districts, otherwise they are stationary. Sporadic cases of cholera and small-pox are reported.		
N. W. Provinces and Oudh—(April 16th)		
Benares (April 14th)	Nil	Weather hot. <i>Rabi</i> crops cut; sugarcane being irrigated; crops green. Opium weightments commenced. Bazaars well supplied. Prices falling. No sickness in the district; but sporadic cholera has appeared in the city; cattle well.
Gorakhpur (" 13th)	Nil	Fine weather. Threshing was delayed by high winds, but are now being actively carried on. Labourers in demand. Prices stationary.
Fyzabad (" 14th)	Nil	Weather hot. <i>Rabi</i> crops cut and ready for threshing. Bazaar well supplied. Prices almost stationary. Condition both of men and cattle good.
Lucknow (" 13th)	30 of rain recorded at head-quarters; 40 in tahsil Mohanlalgaunge; and 10 in tahsil Muteh-nah.	Weather cloudy; west wind continues. <i>Rabi</i> harvesting nearly done; outturn fair. Opium weightment commenced. Markets well supplied. Prices slightly rising. Condition both of men and cattle good.
Rae Bareilly (" ")	Slight rain at Sadr on the 8th.	Weather cloudy; wind variable. Harvesting of crops nearly completed. Supplies ample. Prices steady.
Paritalgarh (" 14th)	20; rain in Kunda on the 9th and showers elsewhere.	Barley and gram rising in price; <i>achur</i> cheaper. Health generally good, but measles in a number of villages.
Allahabad (" ")	Rain in six tahsils, ranging from 30 in Allahabad to 10 in Bara.	Harvesting nearly completed; cane sowing in progress; paper produce collected and very satisfactory. Prices stationary. Health good.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
N.-W. Provinces and Oudh—contd.		
Cawnpore (April 14th)	40 fell at head-quarters, and 40 and 80 respectively in parganas Derapur and Akbarpur.	Weather cloudy off and on. Harvesting of <i>rabi</i> nearly everywhere completed; sowing of indigo and cotton crops continue; opium collections finished. Prices of wheat and barley rising. Small-pox in four parganas; cattle in good condition.
Banda (" 15th)	<i>Nil</i>	Weather partially cloudy. Crops generally on the threshing floor. No distress.
Ballia (" 13th)	<i>Nil</i>	Temperature cooled by heavy storm; westerly winds again prevail. Threshing in progress. Supplies ample; slight fluctuation in prices. Health good.
Farakhabad (" 14th)	Slight hail one day of the week.	Harvest nearly over; opium collections commenced this week. Markets well supplied. Prices steady. No damage caused by hail. Health of people fair.
Sitapur (" ")	<i>Nil</i>	Harvesting operations progressing satisfactorily; outturn good. Condition of the people favourable.
Bareilly (" 13th)	<i>Nil</i>	Harvesting progressing. Markets steady. Public health good; sporadic cattle-disease in north of district.
Kanoun (" ")	<i>Nil</i>	<i>Rabi</i> being reaped; <i>kharif</i> operations in progress. Prices stationary. Health good; cattle-disease still prevalent.
Agra (" 14th)	Rain in one pargana, 40; slight hail storm at Aitr and in one pargana on 7th.	Harvesting in progress. Prices steady. Slight sporadic cholera continues.
Jhansi (" ")	10 in pargana Mau	Weather cloudy. <i>Rabi</i> being threshed; estimated outturn twelve annas; opium all gathered in. Prices unchanged. 17 cholera-cases reported from pargana Jhansi.
Meerut (" 13th)	<i>Nil</i>	Strong hot west wind. Harvest well forward; full outturn expected; supplies sufficient. Prices steady. Health of men and cattle good.
General Remarks. —Slight showers have fallen in some districts. Harvesting operations approaching completion; an average outturn expected. Markets are well supplied and prices steady. Public health fair; some cases of cholera reported from Benares, Agra, Jhansi, and Aligarh.		
Punjab—(April 15th)		
Delhi	<i>Nil</i>	Health good. Reaping in progress. Slight rise in prices.
Hissar	<i>Nil</i>	Health good. <i>Rabi</i> being cut. Prices falling.
Umballa	<i>Nil</i>	Health good. <i>Rabi</i> being harvested; prospects good. Prices slightly rising.
Jullunder	<i>Nil</i>	Health and prospects of crops good. Prices stationary.
Amritsar	<i>Nil</i>	Health and crops good. Slight fall in prices.
Sialkot	50	Health and state of crops good. Prices rising.
Ferozepore	<i>Nil</i>	Health and state of crops good. Prices slightly rising.
Lahore	<i>Nil</i>	Health good. <i>Rabi</i> outturn fair. Prices fluctuating.
Rawalpindi	Slight rain	Health and <i>rabi</i> prospects good. Prices falling.
Shahpur	Rain throughout the district.	Health good. Prices rising.
Mooltan	<i>Nil</i>	Health and crops good. Prices almost stationary.
Dera Ismail Khan	30	Health and prospects good. Prices stationary.
Peshawar	250	Health good. Crops slightly damaged by excessive rain and hail-storms. Prices rising.
General Remarks. —Rain in the Sialkot, Rawalpindi, Shahpur, Dera Ismail Khan and Peshawar districts. Health good. Crops in the Mooltan district damaged by excessive rain and hail-storms; elsewhere prospects are on the whole good. Prices fluctuating.		
Central Provinces—(April 15th)		
Nagpur	67	Weather close. Preparations for <i>kharif</i> in places. Small-pox and cattle-disease in two taluhs. Prices steady.
Jubbulpore	08	Weather enigmatical and cool. Reaping continues; threshing commenced; yield will be less than anticipated owing to mildew. Prices unchanged.
Saugor (April 14th)	03	Weather cloudy. <i>Rabi</i> harvesting general, outturn favourable, except that of wheat. Health good. Prices easy.
Seoni	27	Weather occasionally cloudy. Threshing in progress; land being prepared for <i>kharif</i> sowings. Cattle-disease and fever prevalent. Prices unchanged.
Hoshangabad	<i>Nil</i>	Weather reasonable. Winnowing in progress. 47 cases of cholera; 16 deaths at Hirda; fever slightly prevalent. Wheat 23 and rice 12 annas per seer.
Kanouja	<i>Nil</i>	Days warm; nights occasionally cloudy. Threshing in progress. 22 cases of cholera, 9 deaths; 5 cases of small-pox. Prices steady.
Katpur	245	Weather cloudy and stormy. Threshing in progress. 38 cases of cholera; 12 deaths; cattle-disease in parts. Prices steady.
Bambaiapur (April 14th)	13	Weather cloudy and stormy. Sugarcane sowing continues. Cholera in places. Rice 28 annas.
General Remarks. —The weather has been very variable with frequent thunderstorms and much cloud at times. <i>Rabi</i> harvesting continues in the northern districts, where the outturn of wheat is proving less than was anticipated owing to the mildew which resulted from the rain of January and February last.		

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
British Burma—(April 15th)		
Akyab (April 11th)	<i>Nil</i>	Small-pox ceased; cholera abating in town; health of district good; cattle healthy.
Rangoon ...	<i>Nil</i>	Slight cholera in town and in one township.
Amherst (Moulmein) ...	0·85	Total rainfall 1·04. One death from cholera.
Tavoy ...	<i>Nil</i>	Public health good; cattle healthy.
Pegu ...	<i>Nil</i>	Public health and health of cattle good.
Henzada ...	<i>Nil</i>	Public health and health of cattle good.
Prome ...	0·21	Small-pox prevalent in town.
Toungoo ...	Heavy hailstorms on 10th and 11th instant	Total rainfall 0·21. Public health and health of cattle good.
	1·76.	Total rainfall 2·10. Public health and health of cattle good.
Thayetmayo ...	0·10	Total rainfall 0·14. Slight cholera and small-pox in town; cattle-disease and small-pox prevalent in four circles.
		<i>General Remarks.</i> —Cholera prevalent in parts of Amherst and Shwegyin districts; small-pox prevalent in parts of Thariawaddy, Henzada and Thayetmayo districts, otherwise public health good; cattle-disease in Thayetmayo district. Weather sultry; symptoms of south-west monsoon.
Assam—(April 15th)		
Gauhati ...	1·62, of rain during the week ending the 4th instant.	Weather rainy and cool. Sowing of <i>aus</i> crop almost over; prospects good. Public health fair.
Sylhet ...	6·73	State and prospects of crops favourable. Cholera, small-pox and cattle-disease reported from the interior.
Cachar ...	5·23	Weather warm. Ploughing for <i>dumahi</i> and <i>murali</i> crops continues. Common rice 17½ seers per rupee. 8 deaths from cholera from Sadr and 3 from Hailakandi reported.
Dibragarh ...	1·93	Occasional showers. <i>Ahu dhan</i> being sown. Cattle-disease reported from some <i>mauzahs</i> ; district healthy.
Mysore and Coorg—(April 15th)		
Bangalore ...	Slight rain has fallen in several parts of the State. 21; Kolar, 45; Tumkur, 15.	Prospects remain uncertain. Cases of cholera occur in Mysore and Kolar districts; health otherwise generally good. No material change in prices.
Mercara (April 8th)	·07	Paddy crop is ripening; coffee blossom out, but more rain wanted.
Ditto („ 15th)	·87	Prices stationary. Prospects of season and public health good. Rain much wanted for coffee blossom. Prices of food-grains stationary. Prospects of season and public health good.
Berar and Hyderabad—(April 15th)		
Amraoti ...	<i>Nil</i>	Weather hot and cloudy. Threshing of <i>rabi</i> continues in places; <i>kharif</i> preparations in hand. Wheat 22 and <i>juari</i> 26 seers per rupee.
Akola ...	<i>Nil</i>	Weather hot. Threshing of <i>rabi</i> almost finished; preparations for <i>kharif</i> commenced.
Hyderabad ...	<i>Nil</i>	<i>Tali</i> crops are being sown in some places; reaping of <i>tali</i> has commenced. No sickness to men and beasts. Prices—wheat 12, coarse rice 12½, white <i>juari</i> 19, yellow <i>juari</i> 23½ and <i>tur</i> 18 seers per current sicca rupee.
Central India States—(April 15th)		
Indore ...	·06	Weather normal. Health good. Prices steady.
Morar (Gwalior) ...	<i>Nil</i>	Health good. Weather reasonable.
Sutna ...	08; heavy hailstorm on 8th.	Weather hot. Health good.
Ratlam ...	·27	No report received.
Behore ...	·03	Weather cloudy with slight rain. Opium crops injured; other crops good. Health good.
Nowgong ...	No rain	Weather seasonable. Health good. Prices steady.
Manpur (Bhopawar) ...	<i>Nil</i>	Prospects good; harvesting commenced. Health good.
Neemuch ...	Slight showers of rain	Weather seasonable. Collection of opium finished; <i>rabi</i> crops being reaped. Health good.
Goona ...	.....	Weather cloudy. Health good. Harvesting continues.
Bhopal ...	Slight showers of rain	No report received.
Agar ...	.....	Prospects good. Cholera continues in epidemic form at Ujjain.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Rajputana—(April 15th)		
Abu (April 15th)	Nil	Weather occasionally cloudy; mornings and evenings cold; days windy and cool.
Sirohi (" 12th)	Nil	Wells good; tanks dry. Health good. Weather cloudy at first, now fine and clear.
Marwar (" 10th)	Rain past week, '06; present week, '35; small shower of hail and rain on 6th.	Two months' water in Jodhpur city tanks. Health good. <i>Rabi</i> harvest operations in progress. Weather cloudy. Prices with tendency to fall.
Meywar (" 12th)	Nil	Wells and tanks very good. Fever rather prevalent. Weather cloudy and at first cool and afterwards warm.
Harowli (" 11th)	Deoli, '09; Tonk, '59	Weather cloudy and stormy. Threshing and winnowing in progress. Measles in Tonk.
Jhallawar (" 10th)	Showers of rain general; hail fell in two districts.	Health good.
Ajmere (" 14th)	Nil	A few cases of cholera in the city; small-pox increasing. Weather getting warmer.
Jeypore ...	.....	No report received.
Bhurtpore ...	.....	No report received.
Udaipur (April 14th)	Nil	Harvesting continues. Slight cholera in two tahsils and cattle-disease reported in one tahsil.
Nepal—(April 9th)		
Katmandu ...	31	Weather hot and dry. The spring crops are poor from want of rain.

ABSTRACT SHOWING THE RESULT OF EMIGRATION FROM THE PORT OF CALCUTTA DURING THE MONTH OF MARCH 1885.

No. I.—As to Age and Sex.

	NATAL.				TOTAL.		GRAND TOTAL.
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Proportion of women to men.	Males.	Females.	
Under 2 years	12	6	18	42.79 women to every 100 men.	12	6	18
From 2 to 10 years	11	18	29		11	18	29
" 10 " 20 "	63	29	92		63	29	92
" 20 " 30 "	100	78	178		100	78	178
" 30 " 40 "	14	5	19		14	5	19
" 40 " 50 "	...	1	1		...	1	1
Above 50 "	...	...	...		...	...	...
GRAND TOTAL	206	128	334		206	128	334

No. II.—As to places whence emigrants come to Calcutta for embarkation.

	NATAL.			TOTAL.		GRAND TOTAL.
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	
Orissa	...	...	...	...	...	...
Western Bengal	4	1	5	4	1	5
Central ditto	...	...	...	...	...	...
Eastern ditto	1	...	1	1	...	1
Behar	95	49	141	95	49	141
North-Western Provinces	98	63	161	98	63	161
Oudh	62	18	80	62	18	80
Central India	1	...	1	1	...	1
Punjab	3	...	3	3	...	3
Nepal	1	...	1	1	...	1
Mixed, Madras and Bombay, &c.	1	...	1	1	...	1
GRAND TOTAL	266	128	394	266	128	394

No. III.—As to Caste and Religion.

						NATAL.			TOTAL.		GRAND TOTAL.
Brahmins, high caste	...	...	...	...	...	36	17	53	36	17	53
Agriculturist	...	Hindoos	...	...	...	65	22	87	65	22	87
Artisans	...		...	...	...	47	25	72	47	25	72
Low castes	...		...	...	...	85	34	119	85	34	119
Musalmans	...	...	...	...	...	33	30	63	33	30	63
Christians	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
GRAND TOTAL						266	128	394	266	128	394

Memo.

		Male.	Female.	Total.
1. Hindoos	...	233	98	331
2. Musalmans	...	33	30	63
3. Christians	...	...	...	...
TOTAL		266	128	394

E. C. BUCK,
Secy. to the Govt. of India.



SUPPLEMENT TO
The Gazette of India.

N^o 17. { CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 1885.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

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GOVERNMENT
DEPARTMENT OF

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGH

QUANTITIES PER

Provinces.	Districts.	Wheat.			Barley.			Rice (best sort).			Rice (common).			Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), Holeas Sorghum.			Bulrush (Millet, Pennisetum)		
		Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fort- night of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fort- night of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fort- night of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fort- night of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fort- night of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fort- night of 1884.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.
MADRAS	Ganjam	17 11	17 11	8 13	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	16 3	13 13	13 13	17 14	...	...	...	23 821	10 28	2 23 13 23
	Vizagapatam	19 0	18 0	10 0	...	...	...	13 14	13 14	12 14	15 0	15 0	16 0	...	...	...	23 023	0 23	0
	Godavery	15 5	15 5	10 13	...	...	...	13 0	14 10	16 3	14 11	16 5	17 14	...	...	...	20 1320	18 18	11
	Kistna	10 5	10 5	8 13	...	...	...	13 14	13 14	13 14	14 0	14 0	14 8	...	...	...	21 223	0 22	2 24 621
	Nellore	9 14	9 14	10 13	...	...	...	11 8	11 8	11 2	12 8	12 6	12 6	...	...	...	23 1123	11 25	5 21 1121
	Cuddapah	12 8	12 14	14 0	...	...	...	10 8	9 10	11 13	10 13	10 5	13 0	...	...	...	19 10 19	0 28	13 18 13 15
	Anantapur	10 10	10 10	13 6	...	...	...	10 11	10 11	12 5	11 14	11 14	13 8	...	...	...	21 10 22	11 33	0 22 10 20
	Bellary	15 6	13 6	17 5	...	...	...	11 0	10 10	11 0	11 6	11 6	11 6	...	...	...	23 5 22	10 28	13 20 0 19
	Kurnool	11 6	11 6	12 2	...	...	...	11 6	11 6	14 2	12 6	12 6	15 11	...	...	...	16 10 16	10 23	13 21 13 21
	Madras	11 5	11 5	10 10	...	...	...	11 10	12 6	14 10	13 10	14 0	15 13	...	...	...	...	...	18 8 20
	Chingleput	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 2	12 8	15 0	14 8	15 6	16 14	...	...	...	...	...	25 8
	North Arcot	10 3	10 3	9 11	...	...	...	10 14	10 6	11 3	12 8	11 18	14 6	...	...	...	21 8 23	5 31	13 31 0 21
	South Arcot	9 0	7 13	9 11	...	...	...	12 6	13 5	17 6	...	...	16 11	...	...	...	...	...	16 8 16
	Tanjore	9 3	9 8	11 0	...	...	...	11 14	12 3	16 10	12 5	12 11	16 11	...	...	...	21 2 21	3	...
	Trichinopoly	9 10	9 3	9 10	...	...	...	12 3	12 10	16 0	12 11	13 2	16 8	...	...	...	...	...	20 10 20
	Madurai	10 14	10 2	11 11	...	...	...	11 2	11 2	13 2	12 0	12 0	16 6	...	...	...	18 5 18	5 23	10 20 11 23
	Tinnevely	9 14	9 14	9 3	...	...	...	12 10	12 10	14 6	13 10	13 10	15 8	...	...	...	13 14 13	14 16	14 15 6 14
	Coimbatore	15 10	14 13	14 13	...	...	...	9 10	9 10	11 8	10 6	10 6	12 0	...	...	...	20 14 20	0 26	6 19 11 19
	Nilgiris	8 8	8 8	9 3	...	...	...	11 8	11 3	15 0	12 8	12 3	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Salem	10 3	10 8	13 10	...	...	...	9 3	8 11	9 0	13 11	13 11	13 3	...	...	...	...	...	...
	South Canara	12 14	12 14	10 5	...	...	...	13 0	13 8	14 3	14 0	14 0	15 8	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Malabar	9 6	9 6	8 10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
BOMBAY	Bombay	12 1	12 5	10 9	18 0	18 2	16 8	7 8	7 8	7 8	11 7	11 7	9 14	17	7 16	13 16	9 14	0 16	0 16
	Ahmedabad	17 0	17 8	13 8	25 0	25 0	25 0	6 8	6 8	6 8	13 0	12 0	10 8	20	0 21	0 19	0 21	8 21	8 21
	Kaira	16 0	16 0	11 1	...	...	...	9 4	9 4	9 7	13 8	13 8	10 0	21	8 21	8 18	13 18	12 18	12 18
	Surat	18 13	18 13	11 2	13 8	13 8	11 4	7 5	7 5	7 6	8 8	8 8	8 4	17	12 17	12 19	4 14	14 14	14 14
	Broach	12 0	12 0	12 0	...	...	...	9 12	9 12	9 12	12 12	12 12	12 12	16	0 16	0 16	0 16	0 13	12 13
	Tanna (Salsette)	11 7	11 7	10 5	...	...	...	8 8	8 8	9 0	9 13	9 13	11 4	14	4 14	14 19	10 13	6 13	6 13
	Colaba (Alibag)	9 8	9 8	8 0	...	...	...	6 0	6 0	6 8	11 8	11 8	11 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Khandesh (Dhulia)	No return received			...	...	...	11 12	11 14	7 7	13 0	13 0	11 0	...	...	...	21	0 19	12 19
	Nasik	19 0	19 0	17 0	...	...	...	8 7	8 8	8 9	10 12	10 14	10 13	22	3 25	0 17	5 18	3 18	3 18
	Ahmednagar	17 0	17 10	14 12	...	...	...	10 7	10 7	7 9	11 0	11 0	11 0	17	6 17	6 14	2 16	2 16	2 16
	Pune	13 13	13 13	13 13	9 4	9 4	9 4	10 7	10 7	7 10	11 5	11 5	11 5	23	7 21	9 15	15 19	4 19	4 19
	Shelapur	15 16	16 12	14 8	...	...	...	7 8	7 8	7 12	10 8	10 8	13 0	19	0 18	8 23	0 19	0 19	0 19
	Kaladgi (Bagalkot)	17 8	17 8	22 8	12 8	12 8	16 0	9 9	9 9	8 3	11 7	11 7	10 0	14	10 14	10 15	15 14	4 14	4 14
	Satara	13 6	13 6	14 11	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	13 8	13 0	13 0	14 0	19	0 18	0 21	10 19	0 19	0 19
	Belgaum	19 0	17 0	19 13	11 0	11 0	13 0	12 0	12 0	13 8	13 0	12 0	17 0	19	0 19	0 27	0 15	13 15	13 15
	Dharwar (Hubli)	15 0	15 0	23 0	...	...	...	9 4	9 16	8 9	12 11	13 7	12 0	16	14 17	9 15	10 13	4 13	4 13
	Ratnagiri	11 14	12 8	10 9	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	8 0	...	...	...	12	0 16	0 16	0 18	0 18	0 18
	Kanara (Karwar)	14 0	14 0	9 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	11 6	11 6	11 6	13 5	26	0 26	0 20	0 18	0 18	0 18
	Panch Mahals (Godhra)	18 0	16 0	11 6	...	...	...	5 10	5 10	5 10	6 8	6 8	8 3	4	29	0 29	0 21	6 27	6 27
	Aden	8 0	8 0	7 0	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	11 0	15 8	15 8	13 4	17	2 17	2 15	12 16	0 16	0 16
	Asirgarh	20 0	20 0	14 0	...	...	...	7 7	7 7	7 9	7 9	11 7	11 7	11	1 17	8 22	8 18	0 23	0 23
	Baroda	14 5	13 2	11 1	17 2	17 2	15 12	7 2	7 3	6 10	10 0	10 0	8 2	32	8 22	8 18	0 23	0 23	0 23
	Baroda	17 2	17 1	13 14	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Baroda	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Nimach	22 10	22 8	18 1	33 0	33 0	31 24 11 6	6 4	6 0	6 0	7 4	7 0	7 0	33	4 33	0 24	0 26	0 26	0 26
	Nasirabad	19 0	19 0	15 4	...	...	...	6 0	6 0	6 0	10 0	10 0	8 0	19	8 19	8 20	12 26	8 21	8 21
	Jaipur	14 8	16 0	14 0	19 8	24 8	24 8	10 0	10 0	10 0	11 4	11 4	11 4	23	12 26	8 22	12 26	8 21	8 21
	Upper Sindh Frontier	14 10	15 5	14 0	19 0	22 0	22 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	15 0	15 0	15 0	21	0 22	0 19	0 18	0 18	0 18
	Kutchi	18 0	18 0	18 0	26 0	24 0	27 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	14 0	14 0	13 0	26	0 27	0 23	0 24	0 24	0 24
	Handwarah (Nakur)	14 8	15 8	14 0	20 0	23 0	24 4	10 8	11 0	11 0	15 0	14 0	13 0	20	0 22	0 21	6 27	0 27	0 27
	Shikarpur	17 0	17 0	15 0	23 0	27 0	27 8	11 0	11 0	9 8	13 0	17 0	13 8	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Sukkur	16 0	16 0	12 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
PUNJAB	Western Districts.	17 0	16 0	18 0	24 0	...	...	20 0	13 8	15 4	14 8	17 4	16 8	19 0	...	...	...	...	...
	Rawalpindi	18 0	17 8	16 0	20 0	18 0	21 0	15 8	16 0	18 0	18 8	19 0	19 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Lahore	16 0	16 0	15 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	14 4	15 0	18 8	16 4	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Beerbloom	16 0	20 0	12 0	20 0	34 0	15 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	20 0	20 0	19 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Midnapore	17 0	17 0	16 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	8 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Hoshiarpur	16 0	16 0	14 8	...	...	...	11 4	12 8	12 8	14 4	14 8	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...

1. The sub-divisions the retail prices of wheat per rupee were:—(1) 11 seers, (2) 12 seers, and (3) 13 seers 14-4 annas.
 2. The retail price of wheat in the interior ranges from 12 to 14 seers per rupee.
 3. The retail price of wheat in the interior ranges from 11-4 to 14-4 seers per rupee.

FOR THE 2nd HALF OF MARCH 1885.

TERS OF 80 TOLANS.

* In common use.

QUANTITIES PER UNIT

Revol - continued.

[illegible]

TABLE FOR THE 2nd HALF OF MARCH 1885—continued.

TENS OF 80 TOLAHS.

GRAIN.										Firewood.			Salt.												DISTRICTS.												PROVINCES.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																												
Present fortnight.		Past fortnight.		Corresponding fortnight of 1884.		Present fortnight.		Past fortnight.		Corresponding fortnight of 1884.		Wholesale prices per maund of 40 seers.						Retail.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
Present fortnight.		Past fortnight.		Corresponding fortnight of 1884.		Present fortnight.		Past fortnight.		Corresponding fortnight of 1884.		Present fortnight.		Past fortnight.		Corresponding fortnight of 1884.		Present fortnight.		Past fortnight.		Corresponding fortnight of 1884.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																											
S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	R. a. p.	R. a. p.	R. a. p.	R. a. p.	R. a. p.	R. a. p.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.

Solan is selling at cheap rate, owing to appearance of new crop in the market.

The retail price of salt at Chandpore and Muzaffarpore was 12½ seers per rupee.

In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were:—Aurangabad 12½ seers, Jehanabad 11½ seers, and Nowada 10 seers.

In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were:—Buxar 12 seers, Bhagalpur 11½ seers, and Masarum 12 seers.

In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were:—Araon 11 seers and Madhubani 12½ seers.

In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were:—Araon 11 seers and Gopalganj 9½ seers.

In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were:—Bhagalpur 11 seers and Janm 11½ seers.

In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were:—Bhagalpur 11 seers, Madhubani 10½ seers, and Seopole 11 seers.

In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were:—Bhagalpur 11 seers and Janm 11½ seers.

In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were:—Bhagalpur 11 seers and Janm 11½ seers.

In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were:—Bhagalpur 11 seers and Janm 11½ seers.

In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were:—Bhagalpur 11 seers and Janm 11½ seers.

In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were:—Bhagalpur 11 seers and Janm 11½ seers.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT

QUANTITIES PER RU

PROVINCES.	DISTRICTS.	Wheat.			Barley.			Rice (best sort).			Rice (common).			Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), Holcus Sorghum.			Barnard Millet (Candou, Bang), Pennisetum Sp.		
		Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fort- night of 1894.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fort- night of 1894.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fort- night of 1894.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fort- night of 1894.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fort- night of 1894.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fort- night of 1894.
		S. Ch. S.	Ch. S.	S. Ch. S.	S. Ch. S.	Ch. S.	S. Ch. S.	S. Ch. S.	Ch. S.	S. Ch. S.	S. Ch. S.	Ch. S.	S. Ch. S.	S. Ch. S.	Ch. S.	S. Ch. S.	S. Ch. S.	Ch. S.	S. Ch. S.
ASSAM.	Sylhet	12 8	12 0	15 0	...	...	...	11 4	14 0	10 8	13 8	16 0	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Cachar	11 10 1	11 6 1	10 10	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	11 8	13 4	17 8	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Goalpara	20 0	16 0	13 4	...	...	...	8 0	6 0	8 0	11 0	10 0	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Garo Hills	...	...	4 0	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	13 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Kamrup	16 0	16 0	16 0	...	...	...	7 0	7 0	8 0	10 0	10 0	13 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Darrang	10 0	10 0	...	...	...	...	5 8	5 0	10 8	12 0	13 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Nowgong	8 0	8 0	...	...	...	...	8 0	7 0	8 0	16 0	14 0	14 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Sibsagar	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	7 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Lakhimpur	8 0	8 0	9 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 8	8 0	11 0	11 0	9 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Khasi & Jaintia Hills	...	...	...	...	...	...	4 0	4 0	4 0	8 0	8 0	9 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Naga Hills	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
N.W. PROVINCES.	Dehra Dun	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Shahjahanpur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Muzaffarnagar	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Meerut	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Bulandshahr	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Aligarh	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Kanpur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Gorhali	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Bijnor	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Meerabad	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Budaun	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Bareilly	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Shahjahanpur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Tarai Pergunnahs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Muttra	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Agra	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Farrukhabad	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Mainpuri	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Etawah	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Etah	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
OUDH.	Jalaun	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Jhansi	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Lalitpur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Cawnpore	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Fatehpur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Banda	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Allahabad	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Hanuman	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Jaunpur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Gorakhpur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Ballia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Philibhit	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Almora	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Sultanpur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Parbhatar	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Fyzabad	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Kheri	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Lucknow	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Bara Banki	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Maharaj	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Itai Barali	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Sitapur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Gonda	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Unao	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Hardoi	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
PUNJAB.	Himachal	22 0	22 0	18 0	40 0	39 0	29 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 0	46 0	46 0	0 27	0 36	0 39	...
	Hoshiar	23 0	23 0	19 0	30 0	30 0	26 0	...	...	...	14 0	12 0	8 0	38 0	38 0	0 23	0 30	0 30	...
	Gurgaon	22 0	22 0	19 0	40 0	40 0	27 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 0	50 0	50 0	0 24	0 32	0 43	...
	Jellal	22 0	23 0	19 0	36 0	38 0	26 0	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	13 0	34 0	33 0	0 25	0 33	0 36	...
	Karnal	24 0	26 0	19 0	38 0	40 0	26 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	10 0	35 0	35 0	0 26	0 30	0 30	...
	Unnao	24 0	27 0	22 0	35 0	35 0	32 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	11 0	40 0	40 0	0 31	0 32	0 33	...
	Bina	18 0	18 0	17 0	22 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	...	24 0	24 0	...	17 0	0 17	...
	Nangra	31 0	21 0	18 0	30 0	30 0	24 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	13 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Hoshiarpur	30 0	31 0	25 0	40 0	40 0	36 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	13 0	42 0	41 0	0 30	0 28	0 29	...
	Jalandhar	30 0	30 0	25 0	44 0	50 0	38 0	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	8 0	47 0	48 0	0 32	0 34	0 35	...
	Ludhiana	39 0	31 0	24 0	37 0	45 0	24 0	...	...	...	2 0	12 0	11 0	38 0	43 0	0 31	0 34	0 35	...

LA FOR THE 2nd HALF OF MARCH 1885—continued.

MILLERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Millet, Ragl. Kauru, Veragu, Chenna, Curaho, Nugirel, Pant, Miaorum, &c.		Gram.			Firewood.			Salt.						DISTRICTS.	PROVINCE.
Past fortnight.	Corresponding fort- night of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fort- night of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fort- night of 1884.	Wholesale.			Retail.				
								Present fort- night.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.	Present fort- night.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.		
S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	R. a. p.	R. a. p.	R. a. p.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.		
...	13 4	108 0	108 0	108 0	...	...	3 8 0	11 4	10 8	12 8	Sylhet	
...	13 5	100 0	100 0	80 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	3 4 0	10 10	10 10	10 10	Cachar	
...	...	13 4	14 0	13 4	80 0	80 0	80 0	...	3 8 0	3 4 0	12 0	12 0	12 4	Goalpara	
...	...	8 0	8 0	8 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	4 8 0	4 8 0	5 0 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	Garo Hills	
...	...	13 0	13 0	13 0	160 0	160 0	200 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	11 0	11 0	11 8	Kamrup	
...	9 6	200 0	200 0	160 0	...	...	4 4 0	9 0	9 0	8 0	Darrang	
...	8 0	125 0	120 0	120 0	...	...	4 0 0	10 0	10 0	9 0	Nowgong	
...	10 0	160 0	160 0	80 0	...	...	4 6 4	9 0	9 0	9 0	Sibsagar	
...	12 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	4 4 0	4 4 0	4 4 0	8 0	8 0	9 0	Lakhimpur	
...	100 0	100 0	100 0	...	...	5 0 0	10 0	10 0	8 0	Khasi & Jaintia Hills	
...	2 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	13 0	13 0	16 0	3 0	3 0	2 8	Naga Hills	

PROVINCE.		DISTRICTS.	QUANTITIES PER																																			
			Wheat.						Barley.						Rice (best sort).						Rice (common).						Great Millet (Cholam, Jowar, Jowar Bergam).						Broom Corn (Pennisetum).					
			Present fortnight.		Past fortnight.		Corresponding fortnight of 1884.		Present fortnight.		Past fortnight.		Corresponding fortnight of 1884.		Present fortnight.		Past fortnight.		Corresponding fortnight of 1884.		Present fortnight.		Past fortnight.		Corresponding fortnight of 1884.		Present fortnight.		Past fortnight.		Corresponding fortnight of 1884.		Present fortnight.		Past fortnight.		Corresponding fortnight of 1884.	
			S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.
PUNJAB—continued.	Ferozepore	25	0	27	0	24	0	33	0	42	0	38	0	...	...	...	12	0	12	0	11	0	40	0	40	0	30	0	35	0	35	0	...	...	...	...
	Mooltan	19	0	19	0	18	0	26	0	30	0	30	0	...	...	...	11	0	10	0	10	0	24	0	27	0	23	0	23	0	23	0	23	0	...	...
	Jhang	21	0	21	0	23	0	35	0	36	0	35	0	...	...	...	10	0	10	0	10	0	28	0	26	0	30	0	30	0	30	0	30	0	...	...
	Montgomery	20	0	22	0	20	0	30	0	30	0	30	0	...	...	...	11	0	11	0	10	0	24	0	24	0	30	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Lahore	25	0	26	0	25	0	35	0	42	0	41	0	...	...	...	13	0	13	0	12	0	34	0	34	0	34	0	34	0	32	0	32	0	...	...
	Amritsar	27	0	29	0	26	0	39	0	40	0	39	0	...	...	...	12	0	14	0	12	0	34	0	34	0	41	0	42	0	42	0	...	...		
	Gurdaspur	33	0	33	0	27	0	40	0	40	0	34	0	...	...	...	16	0	16	0	14	0	32	0	32	0	36	0	36	0	32	0	32	0	...	...
	Gujratwala	29	0	29	0	26	0	48	0	48	0	45	0	...	...	...	16	0	16	0	13	0	45	0	45	0	37	0	37	0	37	0	37	0	...	...
	Sialkot	27	0	31	0	25	0	44	0	53	0	44	0	...	...	...	16	0	16	0	13	0	47	0	47	0	50	0	43	0	43	0	...	...		
	Gurjat	33	0	33	0	31	0	55	0	52	0	49	0	...	...	...	12	0	12	0	13	0	47	0	47	0	50	0	43	0	43	0	...	...		
	Faisalpindi	26	0	30	0	30	0	40	0	46	0	46	0	...	...	...	13	0	13	0	17	0	40	0	50	0	55	0	40	0	40	0	...	...		
	Mulim	29	0	29	0	29	0	39	0	40	0	37	0	...	...	...	14	0	12	0	12	0	38	0	38	0	38	0	38	0	38	0	...	...		
	Shahpur	27	0	29	0	30	0	38	0	38	0	38	0	...	...	...	6	0	6	0	6	0	22	0	22	0	22	0	26	0	26	0	...	...		
	Mazraharah	21	0	21	0	19	0	23	0	28	0	28	0	...	...	...	11	0	11	0	9	0	34	0	32	0	29	0	29	0	29	0	...	...		
	Dera Ghazi Khan	20	0	20	0	18	0	28	0	28	0	26	0	...	...	...	10	0	10	0	8	0	37	0	40	0	31	0	33	0	33	0	...	...		
Dera Ismail Khan	38	0	39	0	27	0	63	0	74	0	40	0	...	...	...	10	0	10	0	10	0	58	0	56	0	40	0	43	0	43	0	...	...			
Bahau	32	0	33	0	28	0	71	0	71	0	37	0	...	...	...	17	0	17	0	13	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Kotli	26	0	29	0	28	0	37	0	59	0	46	0	...	...	...	13	0	14	0	13	0	40	0	40	0	44	0	35	0	35	0	...	...			
Peshawar	32	0	36	0	29	0	44	0	52	0	48	0	...	...	...	14	0	14	0	15	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	32	0	32	0	...	...			
Hazara	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
CENTRAL PROVINCES.	Saugor	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Damoh	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Jabalpur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Mandla	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Seoni	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Narsinghpur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Hoshangabad	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Nagar	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Chanda	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Bhandara	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Devgad	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Bagpur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Bilaspur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Sambalpur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	ARUNACHAL DIVISION.	Akshai	12	0	12	0	12	0	17	0	17	0	15	0	
Northern Arakan		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17	14	19	0	13	8	19	3	20	8	15	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Kyaukse		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22	14	22	14	17	2	33	9	26	13	10	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Samarang		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Irrawaddy Division.		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Kangdon		20	10	20	12	12	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	8	16	10	11	4	17	10	17	12	12	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	9	8	9	8	1	10	1	18	6	10	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	4	14	4	7	2	17	13	17	18	7	14	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	12	16	12	12	12	17	2	18	5	13	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...		17	2	19	7	5	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Irrawaddy Division.		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17	2	20	9	15	3	17	12	21	13	16	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	5	14	5	11	15	19	8	19	8	15	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...		10	12	10	12	9	6	17	7	17	7	10	7	
...		9	6	9	6	10	3	12	7	12	7	12	7	
...	12	1	12	1	8	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...			
...			
...			
...			
...			
...			
...			
...			
...</																											

INDIA FOR THE 2nd HALF OF MARCH 1885—continued.

PEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Millet, Radl. (Kavari, Varanasi, Chennai, Coimbatore, Madras, Nagpur), Pasi (Muzaffargarh, etc.)			Gram.			Firewood.			Salt.						Districts.			PROVINCES.
Present fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.		Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.	Wholesale.			Retail.						
									Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.				
S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.		
...	38 0	41 0	40 0	90 0	90 0	100 0	14 8	14 8	14 8	14 0	14 0	14 0	Ferozapore			
...	24 0	26 0	23 0	100 0	80 0	100 0	14 12	15 0	15 4	14 8	14 8	14 12	Mooltan			
...	26 0	29 0	35 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	14 8	14 12	15 0	14 0	14 4	14 12	Jhang			
...	31 0	32 0	35 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	13 0	13 0	12 8	12 0	12 0	12 0	Montgomery			
...	31 0	37 0	30 0	90 0	90 0	80 0	15 0	15 0	15 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	Lahore			
...	32 0	41 0	41 0	90 0	90 0	85 0	14 15	15 8	15 6	14 6	15 4	15 0	Amritsar			
...	35 0	34 0	36 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	15 0	15 0	13 8	14 0	14 0	13 0	Gurdaspur			
...	32 0	32 0	41 0	90 0	90 0	90 0	15 4	15 4	15 4	15 0	15 0	15 0	Gujranwala			
...	27 0	34 0	36 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	15 8	16 8	16 0	15 0	16 0	15 8	Sialkot			
...	30 0	33 0	37 0	100 0	100 0	100 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	15 8	Gujrat			
...	27 0	31 0	40 0	120 0	120 0	150 0	15 10	15 12	15 4	15 8	15 10	15 0	Rawalpindi			
...	29 0	29 0	32 0	120 0	120 0	140 0	16 8	16 8	16 0	16 0	16 0	15 0	Jhelum			
...	36 0	37 0	40 0	240 0	240 0	240 0	17 0	17 0	17 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	Shahpur			
...	25 0	28 0	24 0	100 0	100 0	120 0	...	...	...	13 8	14 8	14 0	Muzaffargarh			
...	26 0	26 0	29 0	125 0	125 0	150 0	30 0	30 0	28 12	28 9	29 1	27 8	Bera Ghazi Khan			
...	37 0	40 0	36 0	133 0	133 0	125 0	48 12	50 0	47 8	46 4	47 8	45 0	Bera Ismail Khan			
...	45 0	54 0	36 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	60 0	60 0	60 0	59 0	59 0	60 0	Banna			
...	34 0	33 0	34 0	153 0	153 0	153 0	61 8	61 8	61 8	58 11	58 11	58 11	Kohat			
...	30 0	31 0	32 0	98 0	105 0	118 0	45 8	46 13	41 0	41 0	45 0	40 0	Peshawar			
...	28 0	26 0	29 0	80 0	80 0	110 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	12 0	Hazara			
...	Sangor			
...	Damoh			
...	Jubbulpore			
...	Manilla			
...	Seoni			
...	Narsinghpur			
...	Hoshangabad			
...	Nimár			
...	Betül			
...	Chhindwara			
...	Wardha			
...	Nagpur			
...	Chanda			
...	Bhandara			
...	Bilaspur			
...	Bilaspur			
...	Sambalpur			
...	10 0	10 0	9 0	264 0	264 0	200 0	35 0	35 0	35 0	32 0	32 0	30 0	Arakan Division.			
...	Akyab			
...	4 4	4 0	4 0	50 0	50 0	40 0	...	...	...	36 0	36 10	30 0	No return received			
...	469 11	469 11	469 11	...	...	...	22 13	22 13	39 0	Northern Arakan			
...	Kyaukse			
...	Sandoway			
...	18 9	18 9	14 3	320 0	320 0	330 0	50 10	50 6	50 11	29 3	29 3	22 10	Pegu Division.			
...	38 4	10 1	10 1	58 4	58 4	58 4	31 13	31 13	9 11	28 0	28 0	8 13	Rangoon Town			
...	8 14	8 14	8 14	535 11	535 11	535 11	...	...	...	33 11	35 11	35 11	Pegu			
...	15 13	15 9	12 7	167 9	167 9	199 11	35 8	39 9	26 5	16 10	18 10	18 5	Tharrawaddy			
...	Prome			
...	13 8	18 8	10 15	326 11	326 11	230 12	35 7	35 7	23 8	33 6	28 6	19 4	Irrawaddy Division.			
...	183 8	183 8	183 8	29 7	29 7	29 9	25 6	29 9	29 9	Bassein			
...	10 13	16 13	18 3	181 8	184 8	184 8	50 0	50 0	41 12	44 5	44 5	35 7	Honzada			
...	16 13	13 13	9 15	245 0	245 0	245 0	29 9	29 5	26 5	18 15	18 15	18 15	Thongwa			
...	Tuayutayo			
...	18 8	18 8	13 8	220 0	220 0	230 0	30 15	30 15	30 8	30 8	30 8	20 15	Tenasserim Division.			
...	399 3	399 3	399 3	24 2	24 2	24 2	16 1	16 1	16 1	Moulmein Town & Amherst			
...	428 0	428 0	428 0	26 8	26 8	26 8	29 3	29 3	29 3	Tavoy			
...	9 7	9 7	7 0	24 0	24 0	24 0	27 14	27 14	22 0	19 5	19 5	14 1	Mergui			
...	150 0	150 0	250 0	35 6	35 6	35 6	18 14	18 14	14 14	Toungoo			
...	Shwaygyin			
...	No return received			
...	No return received			
...	Secunderabad.			
...	Bolarum			
...	Chuddeghat			
...	21 8	20 6	20 0	...	...	80 0	13 0	13 0	13 8	12 0	12 0	13 0	Amraoti			
...	23 0	21 0	21 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	13 0	13 0	13 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	Akola			
...	10 0	10 8	17 0	128 0	128 0	64 0	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	11 0	Chanderpur			
...	26 0	24 0	17 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 0	11 0	11 0	Bokarna			
...	24 0	23 0	22 0	250 0	250 0	200 0	...	...	...	11 8	11 8	11 8	Wan			
...	24 11	24 0	20 0	80 0	80 0	84 0	11 0	10 13	11 0	10 5	10 0	10 8	Baram			

* No wholesale salt sold.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGH

QUANTITIES PER H

Province.	Districts.	QUANTITIES PER H																							
		Wheat.			Barley.			Rice (best sort).			Rice (common).			Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), <i>Setaria Sorghum</i> .			Bulrush (Cantonment), <i>Pennisetum</i> .								
		Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.
Mysore.	Bangalore	No return received																							
	Kolar	No return received																							
	Tumkur	No return received																							
	Mysore	No return received																							
	Shimoga	No return received																							
	Kadur	No return received																							
Coorg.	Coorg	9 4	9 5	8 10	9 11	9 8	9 13	13 5	12 11	14 8	16 6	16 10	20 1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Jespore	18 0	18 0	16 0	29 0	29 0	24 0	8 0	6 0	6 0	9 0	9 8	8 0	30 0	30 0	0 24	0 30	0 25	0 25	0 25	0 25	0 25	0 25	0 25	0 25
	Kishengurh	20 8	20 4	16 12	31 8	29 8	23 4	9 0	9 0	8 8	10 0	10 0	9 8	31 12	31 8	2 21	0 25	0 25	0 25	0 25	0 25	0 25	0 25	0 25	0 25
	Kerrowlee	No return received																							
	Ulwur	19 13	19 7	17 13	33 3	34 0	24 11	6 12	6 12	8 0	13 4	13 8	10 8	35 3	35 5	4 23	8 28	0 23	0 23	0 23	0 23	0 23	0 23	0 23	0 23
	Bhurspore (City)	No return received																							
	Ajmere	19 0	19 0	16 0	30 0	29 0	24 0	8 0	3 0	5 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	33 0	31 0	0 23	0 24	0 23	0 24	0 23	0 24	0 23	0 24	0 23	0 24
	Deoli Cantonment	27 2	26 14	21 6	45 1	43 11	30 6	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	9 4	44 4	42 13	30 0	0 35	0 35	0 35	0 35	0 35	0 35	0 35	0 35	0 35
	Erinpura	20 12	20 4	16 6	29 4	28 14	25 0	6 8	6 8	6 0	7 8	7 8	7 7	27 4	23 130	0 22	0 22	0 22	0 22	0 22	0 22	0 22	0 22	0 22	0 22
	Sirohes	18 0	18 0	16 8	26 0	26 0	26 0	6 4	6 0	6 4	8 4	8 0	7 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Abu	15 10	15 0	13 0	22 0	20 8	20 0	6 8	6 4	6 8	8 8	8 0	8 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Anadra	17 12	17 0	14 2	24 8	23 0	23 0	5 8	5 8	5 8	8 8	8 8	9 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Balmere	16 0	15 0	13 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 0	12 8	12 4	12 4	24 0	23 0	0 19	0 20	0 20	0 20	0 20	0 20	0 20	0 20	0 20	0 20
	Jessalmere	12 8	12 0	12 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Hilly Tracts of Meywar	24 0	23 0	17 0	30 0	25 0	22 0	...	...	...	16 0	14 0	12 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mysore.	Meywar (Oodeypore)	25 0	26 24	14 13	34 6	38 4	24 34	9 124	9 6	10 24	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Danswara (Meywar Agency)	35 0	35 0	18 13	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 0	20 0	18 12	16 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Partabgarh ("	27 8	30 15	16 1	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	9 8	13 7	13 7	13 2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Marwar (Jodhpore)	18 12	18 8	16 4	25 0	24 12	21 4	6 0	5 0	5 0	7 12	7 12	7 8	28 0	28 0	0 19	12 22	8 23	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Bikaner	No return received																							
	Besodes	31 0	32 8	23 0	57 8	58 0	38 8	8 8	10 0	7 8	9 0	13 8	8 0	50 0	50 0	0 33	8 23	0 25	0 25	0 25	0 25	0 25	0 25	0 25	0 25
	Kotah	33 0	33 0	24 0	40 0	40 0	25 0	7 8	7 8	7 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	9 0	51 451	4 34	0 25	0 25	0 25	0 25	0 25	0 25	0 25	0 25	0 25
	Tonk	24 4	24 8	21 12	37 12	37 12	31 4	7 8	7 8	6 8	8 8	8 8	8 8	10 24	41 243	6 29	7 25	2 25	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Jhalawar	29 64	29 64	20 7	51 11	51 11	21 15	...	...	...	11 13	11 13	11 13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Rahpootana	22 6	24 8	18 12	40 0	39 0	26 12	9 0	9 4	9 0	13 4	11 4	12 0	30 0	40 0	0 26	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Dholpur	20 10	19 6	17 13	38 4	38 4	23 10	10 2	10 2	9 9	13 6	13 8	12 6	38 0	36 14	24 10	40 841	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Central India.	Indore	24 0	24 0	17 8	...	...	...	9 0	9 8	9 8	10 0	10 0	10 0	30 0	30 0	0 29	130 0	0 29	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Gwalior	22 13	21 15	18 4	18 12	18 4	24 3	8 0	7 13	7 5	10 15	10 15	8 12	30 23	13 23	8 32	14 31	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Goonna	32 0	32 0	25 0	21 0	21 0	20 0	12 8	12 0	8 0	13 8	13 0	9 0	40 0	40 0	0 25	0 20	0 20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Baghelkhand (Sena)	25 4	24 8	26 5	37 8	37 8	40 0	8 0	8 0	7 0	19 0	19 8	19 2	30 0	31 0	...	28 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE,
(Statistical Branch.)

ERS OF 80 TOLANS.

* Ten pies per bundle. † Eight pies per bundle.

D. BARBOUR,
Secretary to the Government of India.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

Comparative Statement of the Net Indian Sea and Land Customs Revenue (excluding Salt Revenue) for the twelve months of the official year 1884-85, and of the thirteen preceding years.
(IN THOUSANDS OF RUPEES.)

FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS, APRIL TO MARCH.																													
YEAR.	BOMBAY.						MADRAS.						BATHIAN UCERNA.						TOTAL EASTERN INDIA.						YEAR.				
	Imports in Liquors.	Imports other than Liquors.	On Imports.	On Exports.	Total Revenue.	Total Revenue.	Imports in Liquors.	Imports other than Liquors.	On Imports.	On Exports.	Total Revenue.	Total Revenue.	Imports in Liquors.	Imports other than Liquors.	On Imports.	On Exports.	Total Revenue.	Total Revenue.	Imports in Liquors.	Imports other than Liquors.	On Imports.	On Exports.	Total Revenue.	Total Revenue.		Imports in Liquors.	Imports other than Liquors.	On Imports.	On Exports.	Total Revenue.	Total Revenue.
1871-72.	10,52	70,95	24,64	1,06,11	59,73	4,66	48,75	6,32	1,06,11	1,10	1,85	2,44	4,89	3,74	12,57	14,31	30,02	1,82	4,61	23,83	30,25	23,50	1,38,22	1,61,72	69,83	2,31,60	1871-72.		
1872-73.	11,95	68,43	27,16	1,07,54	65,74	3,79	48,08	5,87	1,07,54	1,07	1,22	2,02	4,31	4,01	12,55	12,25	26,81	3,01	5,30	35,44	43,75	25,21	1,33,58	1,59,49	80,66	2,40,15	1872-73.		
1873-74.	11,23	65,09	21,19	97,51	62,74	4,34	51,89	6,71	97,51	1,30	1,00	1,40	3,70	3,79	14,02	15,20	33,01	3,40	5,49	30,74	39,63	26,43	1,37,29	1,63,72	72,87	2,36,59	1873-74.		
1874-75.	12,10	76,05	19,42	1,07,57	64,95	5,44	51,92	7,59	1,07,57	1,22	1,30	1,72	3,94	3,76	13,22	14,22	31,20	3,86	6,80	26,26	36,92	28,53	1,43,99	1,77,32	67,06	2,44,58	1874-75.		
1875-76.	12,51	72,96	20,94	1,06,61	62,89	4,43	50,29	8,17	1,06,61	1,37	1,02	1,20	3,59	4,81	13,44	11,79	30,04	3,77	5,48	34,03	43,26	30,83	1,43,17	1,74,00	72,39	2,46,39	1875-76.		
1876-77.	13,32	66,68	21,52	1,01,42	69,80	1,29	43,83	8,58	1,01,42	1,49	75	38	2,62	5,55	11,83	6,55	23,93	4,24	5,81	31,39	41,44	33,18	1,28,90	1,62,08	61,13	2,23,21	1876-77.		
1877-78.	14,29	80,86	21,02	1,16,16	53,05	1,51	49,56	8,58	1,16,16	1,87	89	48	3,24	6,00	10,13	2,81	18,94	4,93	6,76	29,32	41,01	35,66	1,48,20	1,83,86	55,14	2,39,00	1877-78.		
1878-79.	13,49	63,09	20,78	97,36	55,59	2,53	44,51	8,54	97,36	1,96	59	36	2,91	5,40	9,30	5,14	19,81	6,98	7,21	33,16	47,33	36,35	1,24,70	1,61,05	61,97	2,23,02	1878-79.		
1879-80.	12,47	59,45	15,48	87,40	62,57	2,57	40,63	9,47	87,40	3,46	75	38	4,69	5,02	9,17	8,43	22,62	8,31	7,40	37,24	52,95	38,73	1,17,30	1,56,03	64,10	2,20,13	1879-80.		
1880-81.	13,23	59,23	17,27	89,73	67,72	2,81	56,97	9,04	89,73	5,04	1,25	26	6,55	5,21	10,43	8,34	23,98	5,37	8,74	42,90	57,01	37,89	1,35,72	1,73,61	71,58	2,45,19	1880-81.		
1881-82.	13,55	47,66	19,41	80,62	57,72	2,06	45,19	1,47	80,62	4,01	1,24	51	5,76	5,01	9,20	4,99	19,20	7,53	7,69	47,88	63,10	40,57	1,10,98	1,51,55	74,85	2,26,40	1881-82.		
1882-83.	14,31	17	20,11	34,59	11,55	2,02	—00°	10,49	34,59	3,42	5	02	4,09	5,44	8	4,37	9,89	8,18	8	54,44	62,70	41,84	—58°	41,26	81,56	1,22,82	1882-83.		
1883-84.	14,44	45	18,71	33,60	13,33	1,81	55	10,97	33,60	3,66	5	60	4,31	4,89	10	5,07	11,06	8,11	13	43,41	51,88	42,07	1,28	43,35	70,63	1,13,98	1883-84.		
1884-85.	12,59	34	15,40	28,33	13,80	2,16	62	11,12	28,33	4,02	5	65	4,72	4,84	4	4,68	9,56	7,57	7	34,09	41,73	40,14	1,02	41,16	56,98	98,14	1884-85.		

* The amount refunded is greater than the duty collected.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE,

STATISTICAL BRANCH;

Calcutta, 20th April 1885.

D. M. BARBOUR,

Secretary to the Government of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.
IRRIGATION BRANCH.

IRRIGATION OPERATIONS OF FASL RABI IN THE NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES, 1885, UP TO 28th FEBRUARY 1885.

WATER DISTRIBUTED DURING FEBRUARY 1885.										LAND IRRIGATED (APPROXIMATE).										RAIN-FALL.		REMARKS.		
DEATH IN CANAL AT SPECIFIC PLACE IN FEB.					TOTAL AREA OF IRRIGATION DURING CURRENT FALL.					TOTAL AREA FOR THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD OF LAST YEAR.					ZILA.					Total from 1st October to end of Feb. 1885.			Average of ten previous years for the same period.	
Full supply.	Actual average throughout.	Allocated charge.	Actual average throughout.	(GROSS CONSUMPTION, VIZ. "TRICKLE" DRY AT SPECIFIC PLACE IN FEB.)	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	In.	In.	Total.	Total.			
1000	636	850	186	38,432	59,530	Saharanpur	26,247	152	204	1,567	28,259	68	41	26,259	68	41	26,259	68	41	26,259	68	41		
700	451	1,100	186	48,497	110,824	Muzaffarnagar	56,127	352	1,401	2,611	61,793	52	30	61,793	52	30	61,793	52	30	61,793	52	30		
810	695	850	279	34,119	115,318	Meerut	70,158	2,064	4,782	911	79,676	1,401	2,46	79,676	1,401	2,46	79,676	1,401	2,46	79,676	1,401	2,46		
730	618	900	279	42,277	121,600	Bulandshahr	42,010	11,192	1,265	7,663	62,895	1,265	1,1	62,895	1,265	1,1	62,895	1,265	1,1	62,895	1,265	1,1		
550	539	1,200	782	121,848	167,181	Aligarh	68,116	19,500	1,677	1,431	417	79,831	4,5	1,4	79,831	4,5	1,4	79,831	4,5	1,4	79,831	4,5	1,4	
						Muttara	8,384	1,405	4,388	428	17,541	1,405	1,1	17,541	1,405	1,1	17,541	1,405	1,1	17,541	1,405	1,1		
						Akora	38,179	2,153	5,147	873	57,947	2,153	4,4	57,947	2,153	4,4	57,947	2,153	4,4	57,947	2,153	4,4		
						Etah	41,432	12,903	75	2,944	532	64,898	75	1,9	64,898	75	1,9	64,898	75	1,9	64,898	75	1,9	
						Mainpuri	16,449	20,324	128	439	1,978	64,397	128	5,0	64,397	128	5,0	64,397	128	5,0	64,397	128	5,0	
						Fatehgarh	64,351	12,259	10	378	1,978	29,707	10	2,6	29,707	10	2,6	29,707	10	2,6	29,707	10	2,6	
						Etawah	49,070	31,699	818	74	3,065	89,493	818	4,6	89,493	818	4,6	89,493	818	4,6	89,493	818	4,6	
						Cawnpore		54,136	530	3,851	1,732	109,919	530	2,4	109,919	530	2,4	109,919	530	2,4	109,919	530	2,4	
						Dellhi		952	2,524	4,184	1,834	19,687	952	2,2	19,687	952	2,2	19,687	952	2,2	19,687	952	2,2	
						Gurgaon	4,193	322	11	406	4,958	70	4,6	4,958	70	4,6	4,958	70	4,6	4,958	70	4,6		
						Dabra Dun	8,685	323	583	152	1,731	8,4	2,7	1,731	8,4	2,7	1,731	8,4	2,7	1,731	8,4	2,7		
						Bijnor	983	33	583	152	2,613	26,3	8,1	2,613	26,3	8,1	2,613	26,3	8,1	2,613	26,3	8,1		
						Tarai	2,407	124	82		5,062	7,7	3,1	5,062	7,7	3,1	5,062	7,7	3,1	5,062	7,7	3,1		
						Pilibhit	3,187	1,563	312		33,582	9,6	2,6	33,582	9,6	2,6	33,582	9,6	2,6	33,582	9,6	2,6		
						Bareilly	30,145	2,875	563		349	1,2	1,1	349	1,2	1,1	349	1,2	1,1	349	1,2	1,1		
						Jhansi	188	71	60	40	1,142	3,6	1,3	1,142	3,6	1,3	1,142	3,6	1,3	1,142	3,6	1,3		
						Hamirpur	127	448	81	413	73			73			73			73				
						TOTAL	514,339	174,793	13,800	38,951	17,305	759,188			759,188			759,188			759,188			
						TOTAL FOR THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR	820,079	266,281	44,443	38,322	110,000	1,339,117			1,339,117			1,339,117			1,339,117			
						Increase																		
						Decrease	305,740	91,471	30,643	59,371	92,704	579,039			579,039			579,039			579,039			
Remarks by Executive Engineers. Weather cloudy at intervals. Northern Division, Ganges Canal—No demand during month. Slight blight in crops. Demand for sugar palko commenced after 14th, also demand for monthly irrigated wheat and barley in Jrd Sub-division was strong towards the end of the month. Decrease in area of for water. Meerut Division, Ganges Canal—Demand for the heavy rain at the end of January there was very little demand during the month, the ground being thoroughly saturated. Towards the end of the month a slight demand sprang up for wheat and pulse of sugarcane. Aligarh Division, Ganges Canal—There was a fair demand throughout the month. Narora Division, lower Ganges Canal—Supply in river much in excess of demand. The effect of the fall of ice was irrigated as compared with last year is due to the great dampness of the soil at the commencement of fall, and to favourable rain in January. Mainpuri Division, lower Ganges Canal—Demand very slack throughout the month. The decrease in the area irrigated as compared with the corresponding month of 1884, is due to slight demand which has prevailed throughout the month. Cawnpore Division, lower Ganges Canal—The decrease is due principally to the season. Tanks and this being filled with water, a good deal of irrigation was done from them instead of canal. Etawah Division, lower Ganges Canal—Decrease due entirely to the nature of the season. Bijnor Division, lower Ganges Canal—Compared with last year, there is a decrease of about 16 per cent. due to the favourable season. Eastern Jumna Canal—The canal was closed throughout the month, the irrigation shown "during the month" is the result of more correct estimates brought up to date. Crops doing well except for threatening of red rust. Agra Canal—Demand was very slack throughout the month; "behar" and gram do not require water; the condition of irrigated crops is very good. Rohilkhand Canals—No demand, the area reported during this month was previously irrigated. Dun Canal—Demand very slight during month. Rabi irrigation practically over. No remarks from the other Divisions.																								

H. W. CONDUITT,
Offy. Asst. Secy. to Govt. N. W. P. and Oudh,
P. W. D., Irrigation Branch.

* NOTE.—In addition to the above 759 acres of sugarcane (tharid) were irrigated by the Rohilkhand canal during the month of January.

NATURE OF TRAFFIC.		AGRA CANAL.						REMARKS.		
PRINCIPAL ITEMS OF TRAFFIC.										
Up.		Down.		Total Up and Down.		Particulars.	AGRA CANAL.			
Mds.	No.	Mds.	No.	Mds.	No.		1884.	1885.		
Grains—								Tonnage, including weight of timber and bamboos	2,000	1,395
Wheat				4,750		4,750		Ton mileage	253,444	131,755
Gram				1,800		1,800		Value of goods	84,983	47,537
Rice								Number of passengers		10
Paddy or dhán										
Bejbar or mixed grains				900		900				
Dál—										
Urd										
Múng										
Athar										
Masúri										
Judr				500		500				
Bajra										
Maize or Indian corn										
Barley				300		300				
TOTAL				8,250		8,250				
Cotton										
Oil-seeds										
Salt										
Metals										
Building materials	26,950			19,200		26,950				
Miscellaneous goods	831					20,031				
Firewood	1,600					1,600				
Bamboos										
Timber—										
Poles and unsquared timber										
Karis and squared timber										
Laga										
Miscellaneous timber				60		60				
Live-stock										
GRAND TOTAL	29,381			27,510		56,891				
TOTAL DURING CORRESPONDING PERIOD OF LAST YEAR	19,217			18,490		32,907				
INCREASE	10,064			14,920		24,084				
DECREASE										

Particulars.	AGRA CANAL.	
	1884.	1885.
Tonnage, including weight of timber and bamboos	2,000	1,208
Ton mileage	233,444	131,755
Value of goods	54,983	47,637
Number of passengers	12	16

ALLAHABAD,
The 16th March 1885.

H. W. CONDUITT,
Offg. Asst. Secy. to Govt., N.-W. P. and Oudh,
P. W. D., Irrigation Branch.

STATEMENT OF TRAFFIC ON UPPER AND LOWER GANGES CANALS FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 1885.

STATEMENT OF TRAFFIC ON UPPER AND LOWER GANGES CANALS.																														REMARKS.														
UPPER GANGES CANAL.															LOWER GANGES CANAL.															UPPER AND LOWER GANGES CANALS.														
PRINCIPAL ITEMS OF LOCAL TRAFFIC.															PRINCIPAL ITEMS OF THROUGH TRAFFIC.															PRINCIPAL ITEMS OF LOCAL AND THROUGH TRAFFIC.														
Up.					Down.					Total up and down.					Up.					Down.					Total up and down.					Up.					Down.					Total up and down.				
Mds.	Nos.	Mds.	Nos.	Mds.	Nos.	Mds.	Nos.	Mds.	Nos.	Mds.	Nos.	Mds.	Nos.	Mds.	Nos.	Mds.	Nos.	Mds.	Nos.	Mds.	Nos.	Mds.	Nos.	Mds.	Nos.	Mds.	Nos.	Mds.	Nos.	Mds.	Nos.	Mds.	Nos.	Mds.	Nos.									
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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.
RAILWAY TRAFFIC.

No. XLVIII of 1884-85.

APPROXIMATE STATEMENT OF GROSS RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES OF INDIAN RAILWAYS.

Return received.	Railways.	Total length open.	RECEIPTS FOR WEEK ENDING 15TH MARCH 1884.		Total length open.	RECEIPTS FOR WEEK ENDING 15TH MARCH 1885.		TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM 1ST APRIL 1883 TO 15TH MARCH 1884.		TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM 1ST APRIL 1884 TO 15TH MARCH 1885.		Total Increase in 1884-85.	Total Decrease in 1884-85.
			Total.	Per mile open.		Total.	Per mile open.	Total.	Per mile open.	Total.	Per mile open.	R	R
	Guaranteed.												
Mar. 1885	Oudh and Rohilkhand	547	98,154	179	594	1,15,014	194	55,11,175	202	49,17,906	170		6,93,269
ditto	Sind, Punjab, and Delhi	754	2,00,987	266	706	3,93,620	558	1,05,05,234	283	1,05,16,983	294	11,729	
ditto	Madras	861	1,32,003	154	861	1,37,949	158	65,31,850	152	68,52,192	160	3,10,342	
ditto	South Indian	656	78,441	120	654	100,971	148	38,21,252	117	40,82,968	125	2,61,716	
ditto	Great Indian Peninsula	1,458	8,27,515	430	1,504	9,05,565	602	3,17,57,951	436	3,36,96,007	437	9,39,056	
ditto	Bombay, Baroda, and Central India	461	2,50,184	542	461	2,23,189	484	1,10,98,959	482	1,02,98,745	480		1,02,214
	TOTAL	4,786	13,87,964	291	4,780	18,72,808	892	6,92,25,821	293	6,90,52,781	295	7,26,960	
	State.												
Apr. 1885	East Indian	1,609	8,33,911	552	1,609	10,14,414	672	4,81,07,485	637	4,04,21,088	638		76,86,417
Mar. 1885	Eastern Bengal	233	92,144	395	233	90,334	345	48,91,559	455	51,15,961	470	2,24,402	
Apr. 1885	Nulhati	27	1,372	50	27	1,402	52	76,098	56	72,995	54		3,293
Mar. 1885	Northern Bengal	239	31,851	133	249	34,480	138	20,53,075	174	20,72,840	167	19,785	
ditto	Kaunia-Dharia	82	3,525	110	37	3,476	94	1,36,597	85	1,45,177	82	8,590	
Apr. 1885	Tirhoot	193	17,550	91	228	27,402	121	9,01,371	94	11,81,858	106	2,80,487	
ditto	Patna-Gya.	57	11,237	98	57	16,085	282	4,35,333	152	5,08,497	178	78,164	
Mar. 1885	Cawnpore-Achnera	138	9,720	70	249	28,232	118	6,49,793	81	9,07,971	74	3,58,178	
Apr. 1885	Dildarnagar-Ghaziipur	12	670	56	12	1,038	86	44,756	75	45,775	77	1,019	
ditto	Rajputana-Malwa	1,119	2,52,205	225	1,120	2,80,840	256	1,25,88,185	225	1,20,67,873	217		5,20,312
ditto	Kewari-Ferozepur	140	21,403	153	201	26,890	92	4,25,082	85	8,36,815	85	4,11,133	
Mar. 1885	Wardha Coal	45	10,118	225	45	19,167	426	7,15,646	318	6,37,026	285		78,520
ditto	Nagpur and Chhattisgarh	149	31,203	209	149	39,008	268	12,01,840	161	12,61,137	170	59,297	
ditto	British Burma	161	59,259	368	254	63,258	249	16,46,665	193	19,72,192	164	4,25,627	
Apr. 1885	Sindia	75	7,537	100	75	12,995	172	3,37,860	90	3,66,272	99	28,412	
Mar. 1885	Punjab Northern	447	48,653	109	447	92,107	206	80,28,031	142	31,31,790	141	1,03,759	
ditto	Indus Valley	660	107,628	163	610	1,37,000	207	65,65,163	199	75,12,217	229	9,47,054	
ditto	Amritsar-Pathankot	51	2,833	56	86	6,207	94	(a) 28,643	52	2,15,363	70	1,86,720	
ditto	Bareilly-Pilibhit				86	1,574	44			(b) 20,227	30	20,227	
ditto	Narainganj - Dacca				10	1,756	176			(c) 18,596	186	18,596	
ditto	Mymensingh				23	440	19			(b) 4,257	12	4,257	
ditto	Kokilamukh												
	TOTAL	3,778	7,08,948	188	4,206	8,80,481	206	3,55,29,387	194	3,90,97,939	187	25,68,552	
	GRAND TOTAL (GUARANTEED AND STATE)	10,023	29,30,723	202	10,556	27,67,203	357	15,28,62,698	309	14,84,71,788	287		43,90,906
	ESTIMATED EXPENSES							7,51,14,953	152	7,64,43,245	149		
	NET RECEIPTS							7,77,47,740	157	7,20,28,543	139		57,24,197
	Assisted Companies.												
Mar. 1885	Bengal Central	114	6,949	61	126	9,966	79	1,35,078	60	4,57,967	74	3,22,889	
ditto	Rohilkhand and Kumaon				67	2,102	31			(A) 89,408	31	39,408	
ditto	Assam	40	1,965	49	78	3,796	49	62,683	45	2,16,132	64	1,53,490	
ditto	Southern Mahratta				214	8,694	41			2,93,689	38	2,93,689	
ditto	Bengal and North-Western				303	34,930	115			2,43,222	43	2,43,222	
Apr. 1885	Tarankesour				24	7,229	329			62,229	272	62,229	
	TOTAL	154	8,914	58	810	66,717	82	1,97,711	54	13,12,647	54	11,14,936	
	Native States.												
Mar. 1885	Bhavnagar-Gondal	193	15,846	82	193	21,480	119	8,63,965	89	10,55,173	111	1,92,208	
Apr. 1885	Jodhpur	19	817	43	64	3,780	59	40,665	43	73,600	38	32,844	
Mar. 1885	Nizam's	121	16,405	186	121	18,472	153	8,38,805	139	9,31,723	154	92,918	
ditto	Mysore	87	5,205	60	140	7,364	53	2,96,396	68	3,54,937	62	62,541	
ditto	Rajpura-Patiala				16	2,077	130			(c) 14,428	47	14,428	
	TOTAL	420	38,273	91	534	53,553	100	20,38,831	97	24,33,770	101	3,94,939	

A.B.—As regards the figures in column "Total receipts from 1st April 1884 to 15th March 1885," audited figures have been availed of as far as possible.
(a) Total receipts from 1st January to 15th March 1884.
(b) Ditto ditto 15th October 1884 to 15th March 1885.

(c) Total receipts from 1st January to 15th March 1885.
(d) Ditto ditto 2nd November 1884 to 15th March 1885.
(e) Ditto ditto 1st November 1884 to 15th March 1885.

FRED. FIREBRACE, Major, R.E.,
Under-Secretary.

SIMLA,
15th April 1885.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

REPORTS ON THE STATE OF THE SEASON AND PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS FOR
THE WEEK ENDING 22nd APRIL 1895.

GENERAL REMARKS.—Slight rain has fallen in several districts in the Bombay Presidency and generally throughout the Punjab. In Bengal, the Central Provinces, and in the Central India and Rajputana States slight local showers have occurred. In Assam heavy rain continues to fall.

Prospects remain unchanged in Madras, and the harvest yield is reported to be below the average in some districts. In Mysore prospects continue unfavourable.

In Bombay and the North-Western Provinces and Oudh the *rabi* or spring harvest is approaching completion and preparations for the *kharif* or autumn crop have begun in places. The *rabi* harvest is in active progress in the Punjab, and has been nearly completed in the Central Provinces, where threshing and winnowing are going on. In the Berars the *rabi* crops have been reaped, and preparations for the *kharif* are progressing. In the Central India and Rajputana States agricultural prospects are generally good.

Rain is much wanted in Bengal to facilitate agricultural operations. Sowings continue in Assam, and prospects are on the whole favourable.

Cholera and small-pox are generally prevalent.

Prices are fluctuating in the Punjab, and show a tendency to rise in Bengal. In other Provinces they remain generally stationary.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Madras—(April 22nd)		
Bellary ...	Nil	Standing crops wet, moderately good, but withering in parts; harvest sugarcane and cotton, yield below average. 5 deaths from cholera.
Kurnool ...	"	Standing crops good; harvest paddy and cotton, yield below average. Small-pox and cattle-disease exist.
Ganjam ...	"	Fever in one taluk; 45 deaths from cholera.
Kistna ...	"	Standing crops good. Fever and small-pox exist; 59 deaths from cholera.
Chingleput (Madras) ...	"	Standing crops generally good, but withering in one taluk from want of water; harvest paddy and <i>rapi</i> , yield below average. Small-pox and cattle-disease exist.
Coimbatore ...	"	Standing crops wet, good, except in two taluks, where water is wanted; dry little standing; cotton bad in one taluk; harvest wet and dry grains, outturn about average. Fever exists; 16 deaths from cholera.
Tanjore ...	"	Standing crops good, except in parts damaged by late rain and floods; and not flourishing in parts of four taluks for want of rain; harvest wet and dry grains, yield below average. 35 deaths from cholera.
Madura ...	"	Outturn of crops unsatisfactory. Fever prevalent.
Malabar ...	07 (average)	First crop cultivation commenced. Small-pox prevalent; fever and cattle-disease exist; 40 deaths from cholera.
Travancore ...	Nil	Small-pox and fever exist in parts. <i>General Remarks.</i> —Prospects fair, except in parts of Bellary and Anantapur.
Bombay—(April 22nd)		
Karachi ...	21; average of 4 other stations, 15.	River at Kotri on 20th, 12 feet 1 inch against 6 feet 7 inches on corresponding date last year. 2 cases of small-pox remaining in Karachi, disease in thirty-two villages in the district; 28 fresh cases, 4 deaths, 33 remaining; fever in seven talukas; cattle-disease in Ghondari; 26 cases of cholera in Sakro, 24 deaths, 14 remaining; in Ghondari 15 cases, 12 deaths, 6 remaining; in Sujawal 8 cases, 7 deaths; in Shahbandar 7 cases, 7 deaths, 3 remaining; and in Jati 6 cases, 2 deaths, 3 remaining. Prices—wheat, red rice, and <i>bajri</i> in Karachi 26, 28 and 36; in Jehi 32, 36 and 14; in Tatta 30, 40 and 40; and in Sujawal 36, 48 and 40 pounds per rupee respectively.
Hyderabad ...	Drizzling showers throughout district on 17th and 18th.	<i>Rabi</i> crops good; harvesting completed; some pea fields in Sakrand flooded. River at Kotri on 20th, 12 feet 1 inch against 6 feet 17 inches on same date last year. Measles in two, small-pox in five, fever in two, and cattle-disease in four talukas; cholera disappeared from Tando Muhammad Khan. Wheat 28, <i>juari</i> 40, <i>bajri</i> 38, white rice 24 and red rice 28 pounds per rupee.
Ahmedabad ...	Nil	Cotton-picking continues. Wheat 30 and <i>bajri</i> 39 pounds per rupee.
Baroda ...	"	Health good; measles in Nausari. Harvesting of <i>rabi</i> approaching completion. Prices— <i>bajri</i> 38 and rice 23 pounds per rupee.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Bombay—contd.		
Surat	Nil	Rabi harvest and cotton-picking continue. Cholera in Surat, Baroli and Jalalpur, 35 cases, 37 deaths; cattle-disease in Olphad. <i>Juari</i> 20 and <i>ragi</i> 47 pounds per rupee.
Nasik	"	Rabi crops reaped. Public health generally good; cholera in parts of Nasik and Malagaon; 15 attacks, 6 deaths. Wheat 40, <i>bajri</i> 37, and rice 24 pounds per rupee.
Colaba (Bombay)	"	Abnormal temperature rose from 31° cool on 15th to 2° warm on 17th, and then gradually fell to 1° cool by the 21st; vapour in air defective on 16th and 21st; abnormal wind northerly on 15th, 16th, 20th and 21st; distant lightning on 17th.
Poona	Slight shower of rain at Firor.	Cholera in five talukas, 18 cases fatal, 1 remaining. <i>Bajri</i> 33 and <i>juari</i> 42; in Poona <i>bajri</i> 32 and <i>juari</i> 35 pounds per rupee.
Ahmednagar	Nagar, 306	Cholera in Shreegaon and Kopergaon, 30 attacks, 10 deaths. <i>Juari</i> 61 to 54 pounds and <i>bajri</i> 48 to 36 pounds per rupee.
Sholapur	Sholapur, 26; Barsi, 20; Mudha, 27; Karmala, 26; Pandharpur, 56; Sangola, 13.	<i>Juari</i> 51 pounds 36 tolas and <i>bajri</i> 40 pounds 35 tolas per rupee.
Dharwar	Slight rain in five talukas: Mugud, 27; Bankapur, 75; Kalghatgi, 21; Kod, 63; Ron, 27.	Harvesting of late <i>juari</i> and cotton-picking nearly completed; ground being prepared for early crops. Scarcity of drinking-water in seven and fodder in three talukas. Small-pox in three talukas; cholera in three villages of Dharwar talukas. Rice 23 to 35 and <i>juari</i> 35 to 64 pounds per rupee.
Kanara	Supa Petha, 69	Second crop rice harvest continues. Small-pox—3 deaths in Yellapur and 2 in Supa; fever subsiding; cattle-disease as in Karwar and in Supa. Common rice at Karwar 14, district average 15 seers per rupee.
Rajkot	Slight shower of rain in Rajkot, Morvi, and Duroi.	General health good. Weather cloudy. <i>Bajri</i> 32 and <i>juari</i> 42 pounds per rupee.
General Remarks. —Slight rain in parts of sixteen districts. Standing crops injured by floods in parts of Shikarpur; sugarcane slightly improved by rain in parts of Belgaum; preparations of <i>khari</i> crops in progress in parts of Dharwar, Satara, and Khandesh. Scarcity of drinking-water in parts of seven talukas of Dharwar, four of Belgaum, and two of Rajapur, and of fodder in parts of three talukas of Dharwar and four of Belgaum. Cholera and small-pox in parts of eleven and fever and cattle-disease in parts of nine districts.		
Bengal—(April 23rd)		
Chittagong	04	Weather seasonable. Prospects of standing crops fair. Prices of food-grains stationary. Cholera continues.
Dacca	25	State of crops generally not good, owing to insufficient rain; <i>boro</i> paddy being harvested; sowings of early and late paddy going on. Public health not improved.
24-Pergunnahs (Calcutta)	Nil	Ploughing continues. Price of common rice varies from 15½ to 17½ seers per rupee. Public health generally good. State of river normal.
Moorsshedabad	"	Weather very hot and dry. Ploughing going on for early paddy, which is being sown in some parts of Jungipore subdivision, but rain badly wanted. A few cases of cholera reported from Lalbagh subdivision and Sudra station, otherwise health good.
Burdwan	"	Weather very hot; rain urgently wanted. Price of rice has slightly risen.
Bungpore	"	Weather cloudy and hot. Prospects of early paddy good. Prices of food-grains stationary. Health good.
Bhagalpur	"	Weather hot. Sugarcane doing well; paddy and <i>moong</i> have been sown in the north and have germinated; lands being prepared for sowings elsewhere. Rain is very much wanted. Price of rice 13 seers 14 chittaks per rupee.
Purneah	"	Weather very hot. <i>Chenna</i> , sugarcane, millet, and indigo doing fairly. Rain required. Sowing of <i>bhadai</i> crops going on in places. Common rice 16 seers per rupee. Health fair. Rivers low.
Patna	"	Harvesting of <i>rabi</i> crops over; threshing going on; cotton looks well. Small-pox prevails in thana Hilsa in Bahar subdivision.
Durbhanga	"	Rain urgently wanted. Prices rising. Public health good.
Hazaribagh	"	Weather hot. No crops on the ground. Small-pox still prevails in some places.
Cuttack	"	Weather very hot. <i>Dalua</i> being reaped; ploughing progressing; sowing of early paddy commenced in some places. Price of rice almost stationary. Public health generally good.
Midnapur	"	Weather very hot; rain much wanted. Public health fairly good.
Khoolna	"	Weather hot. <i>Boro</i> paddy being cut; ploughing for early paddy continues. Rain wanted. Price of food grains stationary. Some cattle-disease; public health fair.
Dinapore	Slight rain fell in some places.	Sowing of paddy commenced. Rice 16 seers per rupee. A few cases of cholera and cattle-disease reported.
Pubna (Serajgunj)	Nil	Rain urgently wanted. Price of <i>dalua</i> rice has risen. Cholera pretty general; a few cases of small-pox reported.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Bengal—contd.		
Gya ...	Nil	Weather hot. Outturn of opium good. Prices not high, but stationary. Public health not good in the east.
Chumparun ...	"	Harvesting of <i>rabi</i> crops almost finished; opium weightments progressing. Some cases of fever and small-pox reported, otherwise health fair.
		<i>General Remarks.</i> —Weather very hot; slight rain fell in some districts, chiefly in the Dacca and Chittagong divisions; rain is urgently wanted. Agricultural operations are retarded for want of it in some places, though sowing of early paddy and some <i>bhadra</i> crops are going on; <i>bora</i> paddy and <i>dalia</i> are being harvested. Prices of food-grains show a slight tendency to rise. Public health on the whole good.
N. W. Provinces and Oudh—(April 23rd)		
Benares (April 21st)	Nil	Weather hot. Sugarcane irrigation continues. Bazars well supplied. The fall in prices reported last week has not been maintained. Cholera in city decreasing; no sickness of cattle.
Gorakhpur (" 20th)	"	Hot weather and high winds which delay thrashing, outturn good. Labour in demand. Prices slightly falling.
Fyzabad (" 21st)	"	Weather hot. Sugarcane being irrigated; harvesting nearly completed; opium weightments commencing. Markets well supplied. Prices slightly rising. Condition of men and cattle good.
Lucknow (" 20th)	"	Weather hot; strong west wind. <i>Rabi</i> crops nearly gathered, outturn good; sugarcane and <i>sau</i> being irrigated. Markets well supplied. Prices steady. Condition both of men and cattle good.
Rae Bareilly (" ")	"	Weather cloudy at times. The thrashing of crops is in progress; opium weightments commencing; supplies ample. Prices steady.
Paritahgarh (" 21st)	"	Most of the grain is now stored; <i>sau</i> , <i>sau</i> , and <i>jatha</i> rice are being irrigated. Prices steady. Health good.
Allahabad (" ")	"	Hot winds in full force. <i>Rabi</i> harvest over; thrashing in progress. Prices stationary. Small-pox of mild type in two taluqs, otherwise general health very good.
Cawnpore (" 20th)	0.5 in one pargana	Weather warm. <i>Rabi</i> harvested and grain on thrashing floor; indigo and sugarcane being irrigated; sowing of <i>extra</i> crops nearly over. Prices steady. Small-pox of a mild type in three parganas and cattle-disease reported from one taluk.
Banda (" 22nd)	Nil	Weather cloudy and hot. <i>Mohra</i> flower is being picked. No distress.
Ballia (" 20th)	"	Strong west winds. Thrashing and winnowing actively progressing; sugarcane being irrigated. Market well stocked. Condition of men and cattle good.
Farrukhabad (" 21st)	"	New grain coming to market. Prices falling. Markets well supplied. Opium weightments in progress; yield fair. No sickness.
Sitapur (" ")	"	Strong westerly winds have prevailed during the week. Harvesting operations nearly completed. Condition of the people good.
Bareilly (" 20th)	"	Harvest approaching completion. Markets steady, with tendency to fall. Public health good; cattle also free from disease.
Kumaon (" ")	"	<i>Rabi</i> being reaped; <i>charif</i> sowing progressing. Prices stationary. Health good; cattle-disease continues.
Agra (" 21st)	"	Weather sometimes cloudy. Harvesting in progress. Prices steady. Sporadic cholera continues.
Jhansi (" ")	10 in pargana Jhansi	<i>Rabi</i> thrashing nearly finished. Prices slightly rising. Cholera almost disappeared.
Meerut (" 20th)	Nil	Weather seasonable. Harvest in progress; cane has germinated well. Prices steady. Health good.
		<i>General Remarks.</i> —Harvesting nearly completed. Markets well supplied and prices generally steady. Cholera continues in Agra, new cases reported from Saharanpur and Aligarh, otherwise public health fair.
Punjab—(April 22nd)		
Delhi ...	Nil	Health fair; a few cases of cholera. Reaping in progress. Prices falling.
Hissar ...	"	Health good. <i>Rabi</i> being harvested. Prices slightly falling.
Umballa ...	"	A few cases of cholera among pilgrims from Hardwar. <i>Rabi</i> being harvested; prospects good. Prices slightly rising.
Jullunder ...	2	Health and prospects of crops good. Prices slightly rising.
Anantpur ...	5	Health and crops good. Prices slightly falling.
Sialkot ...	8	Health and state of crops good. Prices rising.
Ferozepore ...	1; Muktsar, 1.1	Health good. <i>Rabi</i> crops being cut. Prices stationary.
Lahore ...	2	Health good; five cases of cholera amongst pilgrims from Hardwar and Delhi. Crops cut, outturn poor. Prices stationary.
Rawalpindi ...	1	Health and <i>rabi</i> prospects good. Prices rising.
Sialpur ...	Hailstorm in Sun valley on 15th.	Health good. Prices rising.
Mooltan ...	Slight rain at Sadr	Health good. <i>Rabi</i> being cut. Falling tendency in prices.
Iera J-mail Khan ...	1.4	Health and prospects good. Prices rising.
Peshawar ...	3	Health and expected yield of crops good. Prices of wheat and <i>mukhi</i> rising, of barley and gram falling, and of other stationary.
		<i>General Remarks.</i> —Rain in all the districts of the province, except Hissar, Delhi, and Umballa. Health good; a few cases of cholera have occurred amongst pilgrims from Hardwar and Delhi. Outturn of crops in Lahore district poor, elsewhere prospects are on the whole good. Prices fluctuating.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Central Provinces—(April 22nd)		
Nagpur ...	34	Weather sultry with occasional thunderstorms. Threshing nearly finished; ground being prepared for <i>khurif</i> . Small-pox and cattle-disease in Nagpur and Rautek. Prices steady.
Jubbulpore ...	Nil	Weather cloudy and hot. Reaping approaching completion; threshing and winnowing in progress. Cholera reported in one village. Wheat 24 and rice 15 seers per rupee.
Rangor (April 21st)	01	Weather cloudy. <i>Rabi</i> harvest in full swing; all crops, except wheat, favourable. Prices easy.
Seoni ...	02	Weather cloudy. Threshing progressing; land being prepared for <i>khurif</i> . Cattle-disease and fever prevalent. Prices steady.
Hoshangabad ...	Nil	Weather reasonable. Winnowing in progress. 20 cases of cholera, 7 deaths; 22 cases of small-pox. Prices stationary.
Khandwa ...	"	Days hot, nights sultry; weather occasionally cloudy. Threshing continues. 10 cases of cholera, 5 deaths. Prices unchanged.
Raipur ...	Slight rain on 18th	Days hot, nights sometimes cloudy. Threshing in progress. 43 cases of cholera, 21 deaths; cattle-disease decreasing. Prices unchanged.
Sambalpur (April 18th)	03	Weather cloudy and warm. Sugarcane sowings over. Cholera in places. Common rice 28 seers per rupee. <i>General Remarks.</i> —Weather continues uncertain with occasional storms. Prospects are unchanged.
British Burma—(April 22nd)		
Akyab (April 18th)	03	Total rainfall 03. Cholera abating in town; public health and health of cattle good in district.
Bassein (" ")	Nil	Cholera of fatal type epidemic in town; cattle healthy.
Rangoon (" ")	07	Total rainfall 111. One fatal case of small-pox.
Amherst (Moulmein) (" ")	Nil	Public health good.
Tavoy (" ")	"	Public health and health of cattle good.
Pegu (" ")	"	Public health good; cattle healthy.
Arzada (" ")	"	Small-pox prevalent in town and in one circle.
Pruge (" ")	07	Total rainfall 28. Public health and health of cattle good.
Toungoo (" ")	087	Total rainfall 297. Public health and health of cattle good.
Thayetmayo (" ")	Nil	One death from cholera and 4 deaths from small-pox in town; small-pox prevalent in five circles. <i>General Remarks.</i> —Slight small-pox and cholera here and there, otherwise public health good; health of cattle good. Slight rain-fall in some districts.
Assam—(April 22nd)		
Gauhati (April 21st)	Nil	Weather hot with occasional wind. Sowing of <i>aus</i> crop nearly finished; prospects good. Public health fair.
Sylhet ...	527	State and prospects of crops continue as before. Cholera, small-pox, and cattle-disease still reported.
Cachar ...	845; large and heavy fall of hailstones on 20th.	Weather warm. Ploughing and sowing of <i>dumahi</i> and <i>murali</i> crops progressing. Common rice 17½ seers per rupee. 4 deaths from cholera in Hail-kandi and 3 deaths in Kat-gora reported.
Dibrugarh ...	Much rain during the week; 354.	<i>Ahu dhun</i> being sown. Cattle-disease reported from some <i>mauzahs</i> ; a few cases of cholera in the town. Scarcity of rice in <i>mauzah</i> Dikwa Khana, North Lakhimpur.
Mysore and Coorg—(April 22nd)		
Bangalore ...	Nil	Prospects of season continue uncertain. Scarcity of water becoming generally felt. Cases of sporadic cholera still reported; public health otherwise generally good. Prices stationary.
Mercara ...	"	Paddy crop in good condition. Rain much needed for coffee plants. Prospects of season and public health good.
Berar and Hyderabad—(April 22nd)		
Amraoti ...	Nil	Weather cloudy and close, with occasional thunder and drizzle. Threshing almost completed; preparations for <i>khurif</i> progressing. Wheat 22 and <i>juari</i> 26 seers per rupee.
Akola ...	"	Weather cloudy. <i>Rabi</i> harvest over; <i>khurif</i> preparations progressing. Reaping of <i>rabi</i> crops commenced. General health fair, except in Shahabad taluka, where fever and ague prevail. Want of water and fodder is felt in the Patthar taluka. Prices—wheat 15, coarse rice 12, white <i>juari</i> 19½, yellow <i>juari</i> 23½, and <i>tur</i> 18 seers per current sicca rupee.
Hyderabad ...	"	
Central India States—(April 22nd)		
Indore ...	Nil	Health good. Prices stationary.
Motar (Gwalior) ...	"	Health good. Weather reasonable.
Sutna ...	"	Weather hot and cloudy. <i>Rabi</i> crops harvested, outturn about average.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Central India States— <i>contd.</i>		
Sehore ...	<i>Nil</i>	Weather fair. Crops partially destroyed by hailstorm; harvest gathered; opium collection below average. Health good.
Nowgong ...	<i>02</i>	Weather hot. Health good. Prices steady.
Manpur (Bhopawar) ...	<i>Nil</i>	Prospects good.
Neemuch ...	Slight rain on 10th	Weather since clear and pleasant, though warm. <i>Rabi</i> and opium good. Health good.
Goona ...	<i>50</i> ; hailstorm on 13th.	Weather cloudy. Health good.
Agar ...	<i>Nil</i>	Weather warm and cloudy. Prospects good. Cholera continues in Ujjain.
Rajputana— (April 22nd)		
Abu ...	Thunderstorm with slight rain on 19th.	Weather clear since and seasonable.
Sirohi (April 19th)	<i>Nil</i>	Tanks dry; wells and health good. Weather cloudy last three days.
Marwar (" 17th)	Insignificant shower on 16th night.	Two months' water in Jodhpore city tank. Health good. Harvesting progressing. Weather cloudy; nights close and warm. Prices with tendency to fall.
Meywar (" 19th)	<i>08</i> ; slight rain on 19th.	Tanks and wells very good. Health fair; some fever and pneumonia.
Harotli (" 18th)	Slight showers; Kotah, <i>04</i> .	Weather cool. Measles in Tonk. Prices rising.
Jhallawar (" 17th)	<i>10</i>	Crops nearly cut. Cool nights. Health good.
Ajmere (" 21st)	<i>Nil</i>	One fatal case of cholera; small-pox increasing. Weather warm.
Jeypore (" ")	"	Weather changeable. No further cases of cholera reported. Prices steady. Health good.
Ulwur (" ")	"	Weather cloudy. Harvesting continues. Cholera in a few tahsils.
Nepal—(April 18th)		
Katmandu ...	<i>Nil</i>	Weather hot and dry. Prospects indifferent owing to want of rain.

E. C. BUCK,
Secy. to the Govt. of India.



SUPPLEMENT TO The Gazette of India.

N^o 18. } CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, MAY 2, 1885.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

A SUPPLEMENT to the GAZETTE OF INDIA will be published from time to time, containing such Official Papers and information as the Government of India may deem to be of interest to the Public, and such as may usefully be made known.

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No Official Orders or Notifications, the publication of which in the GAZETTE OF INDIA is required by Law, or which it has been customary to publish in the CALCUTTA GAZETTE, will be included in the SUPPLEMENT. For such Orders and Notifications the body of the GAZETTE must be looked to.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA. PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT. IRRIGATION BRANCH.

IRRIGATION OPERATIONS, NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES, FOR THE KHARIF SEASON, 1884 (1st APRIL TO 30th SEPTEMBER).

No. 9661., dated 17th March 1885.

RESOLUTION—By the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh.

Read—

Statements A19, B19, and C19, showing Irrigation Operations for kharif 1884-85 (1st April to 30th September) of canals in the North-Western Provinces.

OBSERVATIONS.—Notwithstanding the heavy rainfall of the year, the area irrigated, 773,315 acres, is 16,000 acres above the average of the previous three years. The assessments, R22,49,077, under occupier's rate also show an increase of R20,738 over the average of the same period.

2. Table I. shows the areas of the principal crops for the past four years:—

TABLE I.

Crops.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Sugarcane	164,569	197,078	154,725	153,544
Rice	101,755	96,357	106,443	92,687
Bajra and Juar	4,141	5,104	35,770	10,240
Mutze	22,376	33,411	89,101	20,321
Other food grains	6,887	5,982	13,300	4,985
Fodder crops	4,554	9,930	18,885	14,483
Fibres	63,247	49,722	88,395	66,709
Dyes	319,092	316,572	294,408	391,891
Miscellaneous	18,504	24,354	24,621	18,455
TOTAL	706,025	739,410	825,747	773,315

Bearing in mind that in the three previous years the amount of rain during the "kharif" season was below the normal, whilst in 1884 it was in excess, it will be observed that the area under the two most valuable crops, *viz.*, sugarcane and rice, has fallen off by 38,000 acres. Indigo, on the other hand, which steadily declined from 1881 to 1883, has suddenly increased by 81,000 acres. This increase is apparently about equally divided between the tracts where the new rate of R3 per acre is levied and where the old assessment of R2-4-0 is still in force. The inferior cereals and other food-grains show a decrease of 38,000 acres; whilst cotton remains at the average amount, and fodder crops show an increase of 3,000 acres against a decrease of 4,000 acres under "miscellaneous."

8. Table II. compares by canals the irrigated areas for the two years 1883 and 1884:—

TABLE II.

CANAIS.	1883.	1884.	More.	Less.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Upper Ganges	384,118	362,119	...	21,999
Lower Ganges	203,677	201,772	...	1,905
Agra	73,436	71,661	...	1,775
Eastern Jumna	117,958	93,680	...	24,278
Rohilkhand	89,338	86,978	...	2,360
Drin	5,293	5,391	98	...
Bijnor	1,707	2,498	791	...
Hamirpur lakes	170	114	...	56
Jhansi lakes	55	2	...	53
TOTAL	825,747	773,315	869	52,432
	Net decrease	...	...	52,432

The decrease is almost entirely confined to the Upper Ganges and Eastern Jumna Canals, which are situated in the upper part of the Doab, where the rainfall was heaviest.

4. Table III. gives the assessments on account of occupier's rate for the last four years:—

TABLE III.

CANAIS.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1884-85.
	R	R	R	R
Upper Ganges	9,69,853	11,01,864	11,11,326	11,16,995
Lower Ganges	4,92,948	5,11,884	4,89,448	4,94,619
Agra	1,08,898	1,57,621	1,07,823	1,04,118
Eastern Jumna	4,29,219	4,55,995	4,38,560	3,87,428
Rohilkhand	33,527	32,800	32,174	35,338
Drin	16,753	16,839	16,802	14,807
Bijnor	15,378	3,019	3,700	5,513
Bundelkhand lakes	131	248	628	269
TOTAL	21,15,706	22,80,290	22,89,021	22,49,077

The rate per acre is R2-91 against R2-77 in the previous year.

ORDER.—Ordered, that copies of this Resolution be submitted to the Government of India; that it be circulated as usual to other Governments and to Local Departments; and that it be published in the *Government Gazette*, North-Western Provinces and Oudh.

By order of the Hon'ble the Lieut.-Governor, N.-W. P. and Chief Commr., Oudh,

G. J. FORBES, Lt.-COL., B.E.

Joint-Secy. to Govt., N.-W. P. and Oudh, P. W. D., I. B.

No. A19.—Kharif Statement.
IRRIGATION OPERATIONS OF FASL KHARIF, NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES, 1884-85.
Comparative Abstract of Irrigation and Rainfall in Canal Districts of the North-Western Provinces.

1884-85 AS COM- PARED WITH 1883-84.										RAINFALL DURING KHARIF MONTHS OF 1884 AND 1883.											
Districts.	Area in acres.	Culturable acres.	AREA IRRIGATED.		Increase. Acres.	Decrease. Acres.	April.		May.		June.		July.		August.		September.		Total.		
			Kharif, 1884-85.	Kharif, 1883-84.			1884-85.	1883-84.	1884-85.	1883-84.	1884-85.	1883-84.	1884-85.	1883-84.	1884-85.	1883-84.	1884-85.	1883-84.	1884-85.	1883-84.	1884-85.	1883-84.
Saharanpur	1,421,696	803,520	52,316	57,844	...	6,528	In. ...	In. -3	In. 1-2	In. 3-4	In. 4-2	In. 12-3	In. 4-3	In. 18-6	In. -2	In. 11-6	In. 3-9	In. 45-9	In. 14-0	In. ...	
Muzaffarnagar	1,056,304	652,673	82,073	90,510	...	8,437	...	...	2-0	3-3	7-0	8-8	4-2	10-3	-2	14-3	3-9	37-2	17-3	...
Meerut	1,522,698	1,008,800	128,114	151,134	...	23,020	...	...	4	2-4	2-1	5-6	4-2	15-1	1-0	13-6	4-8	36-6	12-6	...
Bulandshahr	1,223,526	831,464	98,413	103,291	...	4,878	...	...	2-3	2-4	3-8	3-0	5-7	6-7	0-7	14-0	5-3	26-1	16-8	...
Aligarh	1,251,392	889,088	68,125	72,927	...	4,302	...	-3	...	...	5-5	7-8	8-4	11-4	1-0	23-1	1-0	46-3	17-3	...
Muttra	920,728	670,784	29,083	31,278	...	2,345	...	...	1-1	3-7	3-3	5-4	7-7	4-6	-2	13-0	1-3	26-7	13-6	...
Agra	1,183,872	747,776	15,080	16,953	...	863	...	...	4	3-4	1-5	4-3	10-9	9-7	...	8-3	3-8	24-6	16-6	...
Etah	1,112,932	680,512	39,075	30,054	921	...	...	...	1-3	1-3	2-1	2-8	5-6	10-1	3-2	15-5	6-4	29-6	18-5	...
Mainpuri	1,085,298	605,895	44,833	54,923	...	10,090	...	...	1-0	2-1	1-1	4-3	7-7	15-1	7	17-0	9-1	38-5	19-6	...
Farrukhabad	1,000,032	620,544	21,927	21,726	202	...	...	...	0-5	5-7	3	3-2	7-1	11-5	3-4	10-6	3-8	37-0	15-1	...
Kanah	1,083,904	661,216	67,378	50,780	...	1,868	...	...	...	6	6	5-2	9-7	9-3	1-6	9-4	5-3	24-5	18-0	...
Etawah	1,516,806	672,896	62,749	54,126	8,663	...	...	...	...	...	8	6-4	9-8	26-6	4-1	10-5	2-7	45-7	17-4	...
Cawnpore	845,120	525,440	102	222	...	60	...	...	-3	5-7	4-3	3-8	2-8	8-1	-1	16-2	5-5	34-3	13-6	...
Delhi	1,240,320	992,240	28,534	27,016	1,518	...	...	...	...	7-0	3-1	6-3	6-1	4-9	...	10-1	7-2	28-5	16-7	...
Gurgaon	763,220	67,712	5,391	5,293	98	...	...	-2	4	4-2	13-6	23-1	13-1	31-7	...	14-1	7-3	73-1	34-6	...
Dehra Dun	1,195,328	613,312	2,408	1,707	791	...	...	...	3	2-9	5-9	12-9	5-1	19-4	5-0	15-6	4-0	50-8	20-6	...
Bijnor	690,192	176,512	3,144	3,545	...	401	...	...	1-1	3-4	1-1	6-7	12-0	17-5	13-0	11-5	7-4	39-1	34-6	...
Tarai	877,824	389,376	8,316	6,363	1,953	...	...	...	1-6	2-3	4-2	6-6	10-9	14-6	6-9	8-4	2-4	31-9	26-0	...
Pilibhit	1,093,152	721,472	24,618	29,426	...	4,807	...	...	1-4	3-1	4-8	7-5	7-5	25-6	3-5	11-1	1-8	47-3	14-0	...
Bareilly	1,092,752	411,654	2	55	...	53	...	...	9	1-1	2-2	9-9	7-2	20-3	1-0	13-4	2-0	44-6	13-3	...
Jhansi	1,464,640	826,048	114	170	...	56	...	...	...	2-8	3-5	10-9	14-4	25-4	1-2	7-8	7-4	46-9	25-5	...
Hamirpur	23,477,440	13,728,896	773,315	825,747	14,066	60,496	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total							...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
				Net decrease		62,432															

ALLAHABAD,
The 17th March 1885.

H. W. CONDUITT,
Offg. Asst. Secy. to Govt. N.W. P. & Oudh, P. W. D., I. B.

No. B 19.—Kharif Statement.
IRRIGATION OPERATIONS OF FASL KHARIF, NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES, 1884-85.
Statement in acres of crops irrigated in Canal Districts.

Nature of Crops.	Beharapur.	Muzaffargarh.	Meerut.	Baladehabat.	Aligarh.	Motih.	Agar.	Bah.	Malpuri.	Fatehgarh.	Etawah.	Cannore.	Delhi.	Gurgaon.	Dau.	Bijnor.	Tarn.	Philibit.	Bareilly.	Jhansi.	Hamiyapur.	TOTAL.
I.—Gardens and orchards	1,266	925	1,644	1,148	895	156	413	534	540	331	338	1,071	...	61	292	...	3	19	211	1	32	10,268
II.—Sugarcane	13,722	42,670	63,401	4,182	425	315	520	1,86	2,136	1,926	3,412	2,377	...	190	639	...	508	2,544	8,063	1	68	153,144
III.—Cereals	28,974	23,300	8,400	161	913	...	22	322	378	1,225	695	1,107	...	...	4,293	...	2,628	5,292	16,923	...	14	92,587
Rice	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Wheat	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Barley	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Cereals	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
IV.—Pulses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
V.—Fodder crops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
VI.—Fibres	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cotton	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other fibres	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
VII.—Dyes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
VIII.—Drugs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
IX.—Oilseeds	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
X.—Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL KHARIF, 1884-85	52,316	82,073	128,114	98,413	68,125	29,033	15,000	39,975	44,833	21,927	57,928	62,708	162	28,534	5,391	2,498	3,144	8,316	24,618	2	114	773,315
TOTAL KHARIF, 1883-84	57,844	90,510	151,134	103,291	72,327	31,278	15,963	39,054	54,923	21,725	59,788	54,186	222	27,916	5,393	1,707	3,545	6,903	29,425	55	170	685,747

H. W. CONDUITT,
Offy. Asst. Secy. to Govt., N.W. P. & Oudh, P. W. D., I. B.

ALLAHABAD,
The 17th March 1885.

No. C19.—Kharif Statement.
IRRIGATION OPERATIONS OF FASL KHARIF, NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES, 1884-85.
Statement in Acres of Crops Irrigated by Canals in Canal Divisions.

NATURE OF CROPS.	GANGES CANAL.						LOWER GANGES CANAL.						BUNDLEHAND IRRIGATION WORKS.				GRAND TOTAL.			
	Northern.	Aunpeshahr.	Meerut.	Bulandshahr.	Aligarh.	TOTAL.	Narora.	Mainpuri.	Cannore.	Etawah.	Bhagulpur.	TOTAL.	Eastern Jumna Canal.	Agre Canal.	Robilchand Canal.	Bijnor.		Dum Canals.	Jhansi.	Hamirpur.
I.—Gardens and Orchards	404	626	903	1,023	1,394	4,350	197	326	1,111	760	760	152	2,566	596	233	2,210	293	1	32	10,363
II.—Sugarcane	24,293	21,254	36,122	3,706	1,115	66,490	760	1,275	3,766	4,290	511	10,357	41,064	1,010	11,515	2,210	659	1	63	133,314
Rice	21,798	1,510	9,210	381	1,926	32,996	11	122	384	1,801	80	2,348	29,149	167	23,943	142	4,282	...	14	92,687
III.—Cereals	9	36	...	24	31	1-0	5	4	...	9	3	21	...	167	...	...	...	...	...	288
Maize	...	2,982	...	814	3,825	4,639	75	95	172	540	271	1,156	...	4,128	29	...	...	...	...	9,832
Miscellaneous	144	280	1,046	5,159	7,075	16,496	181	408	508	1,032	66	2,195	1,539	62	65	63	34	...	...	24,031
IV.—Pulses	1,293	282	355	83	137	2,064	43	225	127	1,106	...	...	455	290	66	...	...	...	...	732
V.—Fodder crops	149	16	242	3,139	75	492	...	...	15	...	...	15	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	14,483
VI.—Fibres	456	2,247	4,351	12,660	13,141	32,798	60	53	21	599	105	833	6,121	26,073	13	17	6	...	...	65,853
Other fibres	710	2,910	3,405	12,660	13,141	32,798	219	173	...	95	...	439	106	243	214	...	...	...	...	856
VII.—Dyes	2,147	29,878	18,315	55,250	65,182	170,672	18,631	26,077	37,978	54,627	38,118	174,571	6,985	38,498	...	...	...	...	...	391,233
Other dyes	...	...	...	...	...	653	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	633
VIII.—Drugs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other drugs	...	17	15	47	6	85	23	43	56	5	4	131	239	...	1	...	118	...	...	564
IX.—Oil-seeds	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
X.—Miscellaneous	...	1	...	63	339	392	743	1,014	1,007	1,231	1,101	5,066	1,528	531	...	66	...	...	...	7,623
TOTAL KHARIF, 1884-85	51,373	61,677	72,924	82,851	93,294	392,119	20,296	29,815	45,066	66,111	40,454	201,773	93,680	71,661	36,078	2,408	5,391	2	114	773,315
TOTAL KHARIF, 1883-84	50,180	64,495	64,024	88,466	90,953	394,118	14,630	36,838	53,393	74,534	27,272	203,077	1,17,958	73,498	39,333	1,707	5,293	55	170	825,747

H. W. CONDUITT,
Offn. Asst. Secy to Govt., N.W. P. and Oudh, P. W. D., I. B.

ALLAHABAD,
The 17th March 1885.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.
RAILWAY TRAFFIC.

No. XLIX of 1884-85.

APPROXIMATE STATEMENT OF GROSS RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES OF INDIAN RAILWAYS.

Latest Return received.	Railways.	Total length open.	Receipts for week ending 22nd March 1884.		Total length open.	Receipts for week ending 21st March 1885.		Total receipts from 1st April 1884 to 22nd March 1885.		Total receipts from 1st April 1884 to 21st March 1885.		Total Increase in 1884-85.	Total Decrease in 1884-85.
			Total.	Per mile open.		Total.	Per mile open.	Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total.	Per mile open per week.		
			R	R		R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
Guaranteed.													
28th Mar. 1885	Oudh and Rohilkhand	547	1,08,363	200	504	1,14,406	103	56,20,588	201	49,32,431	171	1,29,431	6,885
4th Apl. 1885	Sind, Punjab, and Delhi	764	2,30,991	298	708	2,30,824	468	1,07,26,325	284	1,08,55,658	297	3,12,988	
4th ditto	Madras	861	1,37,037	159	861	1,30,580	152	66,65,887	152	69,81,125	160	2,72,028	
28th Mar. 1885	Great Indian Peninsula	655	77,321	118	654	86,375	132	38,98,673	117	41,70,601	126	10,51,950	
4th Apl. 1885	Bombay, Baroda, and Central India	1,458	7,96,068	546	1,504	9,04,075	601	8,25,53,419	438	3,36,05,369	440		1,591
28th Mar. 1885		461	2,66,181	555	461	2,24,965	488	1,13,85,972	484	1,12,98,800	480		
	TOTAL	4,736	15,96,941	337	4,780	17,90,725	375	7,08,63,614	294	7,17,71,982	296	9,18,368	
State.													
11th Apl. 1885	East Indian	1,509	9,57,161	634	1,509	10,57,690	701	4,80,64,646	687	4,14,78,768	542	75,855	
4th ditto	Eastern Bengal	233	61,158	268	233	80,935	347	49,72,717	454	52,10,180	469	2,37,763	
11th ditto	Nelbati	27	1,316	48	27	1,651	61	77,404	56	74,984	64	24,731	
4th ditto	Northern Bengal	239	29,251	122	249	33,710	136	20,52,356	172	21,07,087	166	8,745	
4th ditto	Kanua-Dharu	32	3,005	94	37	3,566	96	1,30,602	86	1,48,347	82	3,01,106	
4th ditto	Ti-hoot	193	19,132	99	226	32,806	143	9,23,503	94	12,24,009	107	77,509	
11th ditto	Patna-Gya.	57	12,114	212	57	16,449	288	4,47,437	153	5,24,944	181	3,77,776	
4th ditto	Cannapore-Achnera	138	11,774	85	240	31,373	126	5,61,567	81	9,39,343	75	1,439	
11th ditto	Biddanagar-Ghazipur	12	564	47	12	984	82	45,320	74	46,759	77		4,70
11th ditto	Rejputan-Malwa	1,119	2,43,451	218	1,120	2,73,890	244	1,28,31,636	225	1,28,55,468	218	4,23,516	
11th ditto	Rewari-Ferozepur	140	15,286	109	291	25,670	88	4,40,968	86	8,63,184	85		75
4th ditto	Wardha Coal	46	15,410	342	45	18,669	415	7,32,654	319	6,60,579	283		
4th ditto	Nagpur and Chhattisgarh	149	28,986	292	149	41,918	281	12,41,329	163	12,97,137	172	55,808	
4th ditto	British Burma	207	60,040	290	254	60,641	239	16,06,914	192	20,32,402	165	4,26,488	
11th ditto	Sindia	76	7,222	95	75	10,007	133	3,45,082	90	3,76,279	99	31,107	
21st Mar. 1885	Punjab Northern	447	67,608	151	447	1,26,629	283	30,95,689	142	32,58,419	143	1,62,780	
4th Apl. 1885	Jullua Valley	660	1,97,886	299	660	1,44,000	218	66,38,726	199	76,76,755	230	9,78,029	
4th ditto	Amritsar-Pathankot	61	3,366	66	66	7,669	115	(a)32,009	54	2,23,073	71	1,91,004	
4th ditto	Bareilly-Pilibhit				86	1,503	42			(b)21,730	81	21,730	
4th ditto	Narainagar - Dacca				10	1,834	183			(c)19,987	182	19,987	
4th ditto	Mymensingh				23	370	16			(d)4,627	12	4,627	
4th ditto	Koiklamukh												
	TOTAL	3,824	7,47,598	196	4,206	9,13,073	214	3,62,74,763	194	3,90,62,406	187	27,87,732	
GRAND TOTAL (GUARANTEED AND STATE)			10,069	33,01,700	323	10,555	37,61,488	356	15,61,93,023	310	15,23,13,285	289	38,700
GROSS ESTIMATED EXPENSES								7,06,80,208	152	7,81,76,806	149		
NET RECEIPTS								7,95,12,815	158	7,41,86,339	141		
Assisted Companies.													
4th Apl. 1885	Bengal Central	114	6,750	59	126	9,362	78	1,41,837	61	4,68,561	74	3,26,724	
4th ditto	Rohilkhand and Kunon				67	2,271	34			(e)41,679	31	41,679	
4th ditto	Assam	40	2,359	60	78	4,324	56	65,022	46	2,20,456	64	1,55,434	
28th Mar. 1885	Southern Mahratta				214	9,521	44			8,03,210	39	8,03,210	
4th Apl. 1885	Bengal and North-Western				303	28,310	98			2,71,532	46	3,71,532	
11th ditto	Tarakpur				22	6,177	281			(f)68,406	272	68,406	
	TOTAL	154	9,148	59	810	60,485	76	2,06,859	56	13,73,844	56	11,66,985	
Native States.													
4th Apl. 1885	Bhavnagar-Gondal	193	20,940	109	193	21,412	111	8,83,946	90	10,76,570	110	1,92,624	
11th ditto	Jodhpur	19	1,310	69	64	2,400	38	41,975	43	75,969	34	33,934	
Last 8 days of Mar. 1885	Nizam's	121	17,765	147	121	20,577	70	5,66,670	148	9,45,799	154	92,220	
28th Mar. 1885	Mysore	87	5,044	58	140	6,468	46	3,01,440	68	3,67,178	62	66,738	
4th Apl. 1885	Kajpura-Patials				16	2,517	157			(g)16,962	53	16,962	
	TOTAL	420	46,069	107	534	58,374	100	20,83,931	97	24,85,400	102	4,01,478	

N.B.—As regards the figures in column "Total receipts from 1st April 1884 to date," omitted figures have been stated of as far as possible.

(a) Total receipts from 1st January to 22nd March 1884.

(b) Ditto ditto 1st October 1884 to 21st March 1885.

(c) Total receipts from 1st January to 21st March 1885.
(d) Ditto ditto 1st October 1884 to 21st March 1885.
(e) Ditto ditto 1st January to 21st March 1885.
(f) Ditto ditto 1st November 1884 to 21st March 1885.
(g) Ditto ditto 1st November 1884 to 21st March 1885.

FRED. FIREBRACE, Major, R.
Under-Secretary.

SIMLA.

1885, April 1885

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

REPORTS ON THE STATE OF THE SEASON AND PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS FOR THE WEEK ENDING 20th APRIL 1885.

GENERAL REMARKS.—Slight rain has fallen in parts of Madras, Bombay, the Central Provinces, and British Burma. In the Punjab the fall has been general, except in a few districts. In Bengal rain fell in a dozen districts, but more is very urgently wanted throughout the Province. In Assam the fall has not been so heavy as in the two previous weeks.

Prospects remain unchanged in Madras, while in Mysore they are dependent on timely rainfall. Fodder is scarce in the latter Province. In Coorg the crops are in good condition.

In parts of Bombay the *rabi* harvest is still in progress, and preparations for the *khariif* continue. Scarcity of drinking-water and of fodder exists in places. The *rabi* harvest has been nearly completed in the Central Provinces and in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, and is in active progress in the Punjab. Threshing and winnowing are in hand in the two former Provinces, and *khariif* operations have also commenced. In Hyderabad the harvest continues; and threshing has been completed in the Berars, where *khariif* preparations are taking place. In the Central India and Rajputana States the harvest is over in some places and continues in others.

Agricultural operations are progressing unsatisfactorily in Bengal, owing to the want of rain; harvesting of *boro* paddy continues. In Assam sowings have been nearly completed, and prospects are generally good.

The existence of cholera, small-pox, and fever is reported from nearly all Provinces, though the public health is generally good.

Prices show a tendency to rise in Bengal, and are unsteady in the Punjab.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Madras—(April 20th)		
Bellary ...	·01 (average)	Standing wet crops moderately good, but withering in parts: harvest paddy, sugarcane and cotton, yield below average. Small-pox exists; 4 deaths from cholera.
Kurnool ...	Nil	Standing crops good; harvest paddy and cotton, yield below average. Small-pox and cattle-disease exist.
Ganjam ...	·49 (average)	Cattle-disease in two taluks; 124 deaths from cholera.
Kistna ...	Nil	Standing crops good. Fever and small-pox exist; 26 deaths from cholera.
Chingleput (Madras) ...	"	Standing crops good under large and withering under small tanks; harvest paddy and <i>ragi</i> , yield below average. Small-pox and fever exist; 56 deaths from cholera.
Coimbatore ...	"	Standing wet crops doing well generally, but want water in three taluks, dry crops little standing; cotton bad in one taluk; harvest paddy, yield about average; <i>ragi</i> and <i>ragi</i> , yield below average. Fever exists; 60 deaths from cholera.
Tanjore ...	"	Standing crops good, except in parts damaged by the late rain and floods, and not flourishing in parts of three taluks for want of rain; harvest wet and dry grains, yield below average. 72 deaths from cholera.
Nadura ...	"	Outturn of crops unsatisfactory. Fever prevalent; one death from cholera.
Malabar ...	·46 (average)	Small-pox prevalent; fever and cattle-disease exist; 4 deaths from cholera.
Travancore ...	·95	Preparations for next cultivation begun. Small-pox and fever prevalent in parts. <i>General Remarks.</i> —General prospects fair, except in parts of Bellary and Anantapur.
Bombay—(April 20th)		
Karachi ...	Nil; week before last in Sujawal, 21; average of 4 other stations, 98.	Weather sultry. River at Kotri on 27th, 11 feet 4 inches against 7 feet last year, rise in river damaged standing crops on <i>Kutchas</i> . Fever in seven talukas; 2 cases of small-pox remaining in Karachi, disease in twenty-six villages in the districts, 56 fresh cases, 12 deaths, 40 remaining; 1 case of cholera in Sakro, 3 deaths; in Ghonabari 45 cases, 21 deaths, 17 remaining; in Sujawal 9 cases, 3 deaths, 4 remaining; in Jati 23 cases; and in Sukhbanwar 27 cases, 24 deaths, 6 remaining. Prices—wheat, red rice, and <i>bajri</i> in Karachi 26, 28 and 36; in Sehwan 34, 44 and 12; in Ghonabari 22, 38 and 36; and in Jati 26, 42 and 42 pounds per rupee, respectively.
Hyderabad ...	Rain at Norgubkhar on 15th, ·01.	<i>Rabi</i> crops being trodden; <i>khariif</i> preparations in progress in some talukas. River at Kotri on 27th, 11 feet 4 inches against 7 feet on same date last year. Fever in four, small-pox in 7, measles and cattle-disease in two talukas. Wheat 25, <i>bajri</i> 38, <i>juari</i> 40, white rice 20, and red rice 28 pounds per rupee.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Bombay—contd.		
Ahmedabad	Nil	Cotton-picking continues in Dholka and Dhandbuka. 10 cases of cholera in Dholka, 6 fatal. <i>Bajri</i> 38 and wheat 39 pounds per rupee.
Baroda	"	Health good. Harvesting of <i>rabi</i> completed. <i>Bajri</i> 33 and rice 23 pounds per rupee.
Surat	"	<i>Rabi</i> harvest and cotton-picking continues. Cholera in Surat, Oghad and Chotasi, 35 deaths, 10 remaining; fever in Baroh and Jalalpur; cattle-disease in Oghad. <i>Juari</i> 39 and <i>nagli</i> 43 pounds per rupee.
Nasik	"	<i>Rabi</i> crops reaped. Public health generally good; cholera in parts of Nasik, 3 attacks, 2 deaths; small-pox in parts of Kalwan. Wheat 10, <i>bari</i> 37, and rice 24 pounds per rupee.
Colaba (Bombay)	"	Average abnormal temperature 3° cool; vapour in air defective on 22nd, 27th and 28th; abnormal wind north-easterly from 23rd to 25th.
Poona	"	Cholera in three talukas, 7 cases, 5 fatal. <i>Bajri</i> 33 and <i>juari</i> 42; in Poona <i>bajri</i> 32 and <i>juari</i> 35 pounds per rupee.
Ahmednagar	Sheogaon taluka, 73; slight in 5 others.	33 attacks of cholera in Sheogaon, 17 deaths, and in Kopargan 18 attacks, 12 deaths. <i>Juari</i> 72 to 81 pounds and <i>bajri</i> 51 to 30 pounds per rupee.
Sholapur	02; Barsi, 17; Madha, 11; Karmala, 50; Pandharpur, 60; Sangola, 15; Malsiras, 25.	<i>Juari</i> 53 pounds 20 tolas and <i>bajri</i> 41 pounds 13 tolas per rupee.
Dharwar	12; Maged, 32	Harvesting of late <i>juari</i> completed and cotton-picking nearly so; ground being prepared for early crops. Scarcity of drinking-water in seven and of fodder in three talukas. Cholera in Dharwar taluka, 26 fatal, out of 46 cases; small-pox in three talukas. Rice 23 to 32 and <i>juari</i> 35 to 64 pounds per rupee.
Kanara	Nil	Second crop harvest continues on coast; preparing ground for monsoon crop. Cattle-disease in Kanara and Supa; small-pox in seven talukas, 5 deaths in Yellapur, 2 in Sidapur, and 3 in Supa. Common rice at Kanara 14, district average 15½ seers per rupee. Weather cloudy.
Rajkot	"	General health good. Weather warm. Small-pox in Jafarabad and 2 villages of Pambandar. <i>Bajri</i> 36 and <i>juari</i> 44 pounds per rupee.
General Remarks. —Slight rain in parts of six districts. Standing crops slightly damaged by floods in parts of Kanara; <i>rabi</i> harvest still continues in parts of Surat, Sangarpur, and Upper Sind Frontier; preparations for <i>khari</i> crops in progress in parts of five districts. Scarcity of drinking-water continues in parts of seven talukas of Dharwar and four of Belgaum, and of fodder in parts of three talukas of Dharwar and four of Belgaum. Cholera and small-pox in parts of thirteen and fever and cattle-disease in parts of nine districts.		
Bengal—(April 29th)		
Chittagong	1·2	Weather unsettled. Prospects of crops good. Prices steady. Cholera still reported.
Dacca	58	<i>Boro</i> paddy being harvested; agricultural operations going on, but rain much wanted; prospects of crops fair. Cases of small-pox in the town and a few cases of cholera in the district.
24-Pergunnas (Calcutta)	Not stated	Land being ploughed. The late rain has done much good. Price of common rice stationary. Public health good, though cholera, as usual in this season, appears here and there. State of river normal.
Mooreabad	Nil	Weather hot and somewhat cloudy at the close of the week. Rain very much wanted for sowing of early paddy. Price of rice rising slowly owing to want of rain, the rate now is 13 seers per rupee.
Burdwan	34	Spontaneous cases of cholera occur, otherwise health good. The rain has facilitated agricultural operations, but more is wanted. Price of rice 12 to 15 seers per rupee.
Rungpore	1·31	Weather cloudy. Prospects of early paddy good; jute is up in some places. Prices of food-grains rising. Cholera reported from interior.
Bagalpur	Nil	Rain wanted. Sugarcane and <i>cheena</i> are the only crops on the ground, and these are kept up by constant irrigation; sowing of <i>khaddi</i> paddy going on; lands being prepared. Price of rice stationary. Public health good.
Purneah	18	Rain wanted for sowings of <i>khaddi</i> crops, indigo, sugarcane and <i>cheena</i> , little being done for want of rain. Cattle rice 16 seers per rupee. Health fair. Rivers low. Ground unusually dry.
Patna	Nil	Cotton being collected; thrashing of wheat and barley progressing. Cholera and small-pox prevail in some places.
Darbhanga	"	Rain urgently wanted for agricultural operations. Prices rising. Public health good.
Hazariabagh	"	Weather hot, with strong westerly winds. Preparation for <i>khaddi</i> crops continues. A few cases of small-pox still reported from the interior.
Cuttack	"	Weather hot, with occasional clouds. Sowing of paddy retarded for want of rain. Price of rice almost stationary. Public health generally good.
Midnapur	10	Weather cooler, with occasional storms. <i>Boro</i> paddy being cut in the Ghuttal subdivision, outturn average.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Bengal—contd.		
Khoulna ...	1.53	Weather hot, with southerly breeze. The rain has facilitated ploughing and sowing; harvesting of <i>boro</i> paddy nearly finished. Prices of rice rising. Public health fair.
Durgapore ...	4.0	Ploughing and sowing of early paddy, jute, and sugarcane progressing. Prices of rice 15 seers per rupee. Sporadic cases of cholera and cattle-disease reported.
Pubna (Serajgunj) ...	Slight rain	More rain is expected and is badly wanted for crops. Price of rice rising. Cholera prevails.
Gya ...	A few drops of rain fell	Weather cooler at the end of the week. No crops on the ground. Prices rising slightly. Health not good; cholera reported from the west of the district.
Chunuparan ...	Nil	Harvesting of <i>rabi</i> crops almost finished. Opium weightments progressing. Prices rising slightly. Public health fair, though some cases of small-pox and fever reported.
General Remarks. —Rain fell in a dozen districts, it is very urgently wanted throughout the province. Agricultural operations are consequently not going on favourably; they are stopped in some places, and standing crops have suffered; <i>boro</i> paddy is being harvested. Prices of food-grains show an advance in many districts. Public health generally good, though cholera and small-pox prevail.		
N. W. Provinces and Oudh—(April 30th)		
Gorakhpur (April 27th)	Nil	Wind changed to east. Threshing fairly advanced, outturn good. Prices stationary.
Fyzabad (" 28th)	"	Weather hot; strong west wind. Sugarcane irrigation continues. Bazaars well supplied. Prices steady. Condition of men and cattle good.
Lucknow (" 27th)	"	Heat increasing; west wind. Mellow crop in flower. Irrigation of <i>zameen</i> and sugarcane going on. Condition of men and cattle good. Markets well supplied. Prices steady.
Rae Bareilly (" ")	"	Weather cloudy at times. Threshing of <i>rabi</i> crops nearly completed. Opium weightments in progress. Supplies ample. Prices slightly rising.
Allahabad (" 28th)	"	Weather reasonable. Isolated cases of cholera and small-pox reported from some tahsils. Fodder and water plentiful. Prices slightly fallen.
Cawnpore (" 27th)	"	Weather warm. <i>Rabi</i> harvested, and grain being threshed; indigo and sugarcane being irrigated; extra crops promise well. Small-pox of a mild type in two parganas; cattle in good condition. Prices steady.
Banda (" 29th)	"	Weather hot and reasonable. <i>Motia</i> picking going on. No distress. Threshing in progress, yield average. Markets well supplied with grain. Health good. Prices remain steady.
Farrukhabad (" 28th)	"	Bazaars are being plentifully supplied with new grain. Weather reasonable. No sickness reported.
Sitapur (" ")	"	Harvest nearly finished. Market slightly falling. Public health good; no cattle-disease.
Bareilly (" 27th)	"	<i>Rabi</i> being reaped; <i>kharrif</i> operations going on. Health good; fever in some places; cattle-disease continues. Prices changed.
Kumaon (" 28th)	"	New grain coming to market. Prices steady. Three deaths from cholera, and appearance of small-pox reported from pargana Jhansi.
Jhansi (" ")	(Nil in two parganas)	Weather hot. Crops all cut and being threshed, full average of outturn expected, but proportions of straw larger than usual. Health good; 2 deaths of pilgrims from Hardwar from cholera. Prices falling as new grains coming into market; wheat 23, gram 30, and barley 28 seers per rupee.
Meerut (" 27th)	Nil	General Remarks. —Harvesting nearly completed. Markets well supplied and prices generally steady. Isolated cases of cholera and small-pox in some tahsils in Allahabad, otherwise public health fair.
Punjab—(April 29th)		
Delhi (April 28th)	Nil	Health fair; sporadic cases of cholera still being reported. Reaping in progress. Prices slightly rising.
Hissar (" ")	"	A few cases of cholera at Sirsa. <i>Rabi</i> being harvested. Prices stationary.
Umballa (" ")	"	A few cases of cholera owing to pilgrims returning from Hardwar. <i>Rabi</i> being harvested. Prices slightly rising.
Jullunder (" ")	4.0	Health and crop prospects good. Prices stationary.
Amritsar (" ")	Nil	Health and crop prospects good. Prices stationary.
Shikot (" ")	1.0	Damage to wheat expected if more rain falls. Health good. Prices low and stationary.
Ferozepore (" ")	0.10 at Zila	Health good. <i>Rabi</i> being cut. Prices stationary.
Lahore (" ")	Slight rain	Health good; a few cases of cholera in the suburbs of Lahore, mostly amongst Hardwar pilgrims. State of crops fair. Prices stationary.
Rawalpindi (" ")	4.0	Health good. <i>Rabi</i> outturn above average in six and average in one tahsil. Prices falling.
Shahpur (" ")	Slight rain in Khushal tahsil.	Health good. <i>Rabi</i> being harvested. Prices stationary.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Punjab—<i>contd.</i>		
Mooltan (April 28th)	0·10 at Sadr	Health good. <i>Rabi</i> being cut. Prices slightly falling.
Dera Ismail Khan (" ")	·07	Health and prospects good. Prices stationary.
Peshawar (" ")	·20	Health good. Expected yield of <i>rabi</i> crops average. Prices of wheat and <i>haji</i> falling; of barley and gram rising, and of other grains stationary.
		<i>General Remarks.</i> —Rain general throughout the province, except in the Delhi, Umballa, and Amritsar districts. Health good; a few cases of cholera at Sirsa, Lahore, Umballa, and Delhi districts, chiefly among pilgrims from Hardwar. Crop prospects generally good, but damage to wheat expected in Sialkot district if more rain falls there; prices fluctuating.
Central Provinces— (April 29th)		
Nagpur ...	·46	Weather cloudy, days hot, nights cool. Ground being prepared for <i>kharrif</i> . Small-pox and cattle-disease in Nagpur and Rantak. Prices of wheat and rice risen.
Jubbulpore ...	Nil	Weather stormy and hot. Threshing and winnowing in progress. Wheat 23 and rice 15 seers per rupee. Health good.
Sauger (April 28th)	"	Weather cloudy. <i>Rabi</i> harvest almost finished. Winnowing in hand; prospects unchanged. Congas and cills prevalent. Prices easy.
Seoni ...	·01	Weather cloudy and uncertain. Threshing continues; ploughing for <i>kharrif</i> going on. Cattle-disease diminishing; fever very prevalent. Prices unchanged.
Hoshangabad ...	Nil	Weather seasonable. <i>Rabi</i> winnowing in progress. 51 cases of cholera, 24 deaths. Wheat 21 and rice 12 seers per rupee.
Khandwa ...	·02	Weather hot; occasional clouds and duststorms. 104 cases of cholera, 72 deaths. Prices steady.
Raipur ...	Occasional showers	Weather cloudy and cool. <i>Rabi</i> threshing nearly over. Cholera increasing. 114 cases, 32 deaths; cattle-disease in Drug tahsil. Prices stationary.
Sambalpur (April 25th)	Nil	Weather cloudy and stormy. Sugarcane sowings over. Cholera in places. Prices stationary.
		<i>General Remarks.</i> —Weather continues uncertain. Prospects unchanged. Cholera in Hoshangabad, Nimar, and Raipur; fever in Seoni. Prices steady.
British Burma— (April 29th)		
Akyab (April 25th)	Nil	Some cholera in town and parts of district; cattle healthy.
Bassein (" ")	"	Cholera still prevalent in town; cattle-disease has appeared in three circles.
Rangoon ...	Rainfall for week ending 14th, 0·85. Do. for 18th, 0·70. Do. for 25th, 0·01.	Total rainfall 1·75. Health good.
Amherst (Moulmein)	Rainfall for week ending 18th, 0·00. Do. for 26th, 0·23.	Total rainfall 1·22. Public health good; cattle healthy.
Tavoy (April 25th)	0·64	Total rainfall 4·52. Public health and health of cattle good.
Pegu (" ")	Nil	Some cholera in town and district; slight cattle-disease in one township.
Meizada (" ")	"	Public health and health of cattle good.
Prome (" ")	0·85	Total rainfall 1·14. Public health and health of cattle good.
Toungoo (" ")	0·08	Total rainfall 3·05. Public health good; cattle healthy.
Thayetmye (" ")	0·03	Total rainfall 0·17. Slight cholera in town; cattle-disease prevalent in one township.
		<i>General Remarks.</i> —Slight cholera and small-pox in a few districts; otherwise public health good; health of cattle generally good.
Assam—(April 29th)		
Gauhati ...	2·44 of rain during the week ending 28th instant.	Weather cool. Sowing of <i>am</i> crop almost over; prospects good. A few sporadic cases of cholera in the neighbourhood of Sadr station reported.
Sylhet ...	1·77	State and prospects of crops good on the whole. Cholera, small-pox, and cattle-disease still prevalent here and there.
Cachar ...	·03	Weather cloudy, with occasional rain. Ploughing and sowing of <i>dimahi</i> and <i>murahi</i> crops continue. Common rice 16 seers per rupee. 8 deaths from cholera from Hailakandi and 1 from Kati-gora reported.
Dibrugarh ...	1·20	Weather rainy. Prospects of <i>ahu dhan</i> and tea good. Cholera, small-pox, and cattle-disease reported from several mozaha. Scarcity of rice in North Lakhimpur still continues.
Mysore and Coorg— (April 26th)		
Bangalore ...	Nil	Crops under tanks suffering from insufficiency of water; prospects dependent on timely rainfall; fodder scarce. Public health generally good.
Mercara ...	·77	Crops in good condition. Prices of food-grains stationary. Prospects of season and public health good.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Berar and Hyderabad —(April 29th)		
Amraoti ...	<i>Nil</i>	Weather warm. Threshing of <i>rabi</i> crops completed; preparations for <i>kharif</i> progressing. Wheat 22 and <i>juari</i> 25 seers per rupee.
Akola ...	"	Weather hot. Preparations for <i>kharif</i> going on.
Hyderabad ...	"	Reaping of <i>rabi</i> crops continues. Cholera prevails in the city and suburbs, but general health in the districts is fair, except in Shahabad taluka, where fever and ague continue. Want of water and fodder for cattle is felt in the Patliar taluka. Prices—wheat 16, coarse rice 12½, white <i>juari</i> 19½, yellow <i>juari</i> 20½, and <i>tur</i> 16½ seers per current sicca rupee.
Central India States— (April 29th)		
Indore ...	<i>Nil</i>	One British soldier died of cholera; two cases of cholera amongst natives within residency limits recovering; a few cases in native city of Indore.
Morar (Gwalior) ...	"	Health good. Weather seasonable.
Sutna ...	"	Weather hot. Prospects and crops good.
Neemuch ...	"	Weather clear and pleasant. Opium harvest good.
Goona ...	"	Weather seasonable. Health good. Harvesting continues.
Agar ...	"	Prospects good. 10 fatal cases of cholera in Agar city.
Sabore ...	"	Weather cloudy. Harvest over. Health good.
Nowgong ...	"	Weather hot. Health fair. Prices steady.
Manpur (Bhopawar) ...	"	Prospects and health good.
Rajputana— (April 29th)		
Abu (April 29th) ...	<i>Nil</i>	Weather seasonable, with cool breeze.
Surahi (" 25th) ...	"	Tanks dry, wells and health good. Weather fine and warm.
Marwar (" 24th) ...	"	Two months' water in Jodhpur city tanks. Health good. <i>Rabi</i> harvest operations progressing. Weather partially cloudy, warm, and close. Prices with tendency to fall.
Morwar (" 26th) ...	"	Tanks and wells very good. Health good.
Haroti (" 25th) ...	"	High hot west wind; nights still cool. Threshing in progress.
Jhallawar (" 24th) ...	"	Measles in Tonk.
Ajmer (" 28th) ...	"	Weather sultry. Health good. Prices stationary.
Jaypore (" ") ...	"	One case of cholera in the city; small-pox prevalent in district.
Uwar (" ") ...	"	Harvesting continues. Heat increasing. Health otherwise good.
		Weather windy. Prices slightly fallen. Health good.
		Crops gathered. Cholera decreased.
Nepal—(April 23rd)		
Katmandu ...	<i>Nil</i>	Weather hot and dry. More rain wanted for the spring crops.

E. C. BUCK,

Secretary to the Government of India.



SUPPLEMENT TO
The Gazette of India.

N^o 19. } CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, MAY 9, 1885.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

ABSTRACT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR
GENERAL OF INDIA, ASSEMBLED FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING
LAWS AND REGULATIONS UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF
THE ACT OF PARLIAMENT 24 & 25 VIC., CAP. 67.

The Council met at Government House on Monday, the 9th March, 1885.

PRESENT:

His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General of India, K.P., G.C.B.,
G.C.M.G., G.M.S.I., G.M.I.E., P.C., *presiding*.
His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, K.C.S.I., C.I.E.
His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, G.C.B., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble J. Gibbs, C.S.I., C.I.E.
Lieutenant-General the Hon'ble T. F. Wilson, C.B., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble C. P. Ilbert, C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Sir S. C. Bayley, K.C.S.I., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble T. C. Hope, C.S.I., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble T. M. Gibbon, C.I.E.
The Hon'ble W. W. Hunter, LL.D., C.S.I., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble H. J. Reynolds.
The Hon'ble Rao Saheb Vishvanath Narayan Mandlik, C.S.I.
The Hon'ble Peari Mohan Mukerji.
The Hon'ble H. St.A. Goodrich.
The Hon'ble G. H. P. Evans.
The Hon'ble J. W. Quinton.

BENGAL TENANCY BILL.

The adjourned debate on the Bill was resumed this day.

The Hon'ble BĀBŪ PEĀRI MOHAN MUKERJI moved that sub-section (2) of section 50 be omitted. He said :—" This sub-section is a reproduction of what

is known as the rule of 20 years' presumption. It raises a presumption of fixity of rent in favour of all raiyats who might prove payment of rent at rates which have not changed for 20 years before suit. Such a rule might have been reasonable in 1859, when there was no complete Code of the Law of Evidence in the Indian Statute-book, and when proof of payment of a fixed rent since 1839 might have raised a presumption of possession since 1793. But what justification can there be for such a rule now that we have a Code of the Law of Evidence, which deals specifically with the subject of presumptions, and when proof of payment of rent at uniform rate since 1865 can reasonably raise no presumption whatever that the same rent had been paid since 1793? The injustice of this rule of presumption cannot be better shown than by referring to the fact that in a vast majority of cases landholders have been unable to rebut it. And yet of the thousands of cases in which it has been held by virtue of this presumption that the lands have been held at a fixed rent since 1793, a large majority must have been cases of holdings created subsequent to the days when from half to two-thirds of these provinces were barren waste. This was forcibly shown the other day by the Hon'ble Mr. Reynolds by means of the statistics he produced of the enormous increase in the number of villages since 1793. Contrary, therefore, to its original scope and object, the rule has operated like a rule of prescription or limitation to create rights where none existed before. If the presumption was difficult to rebut in 1859, how much greater must be the difficulty as years roll on? A large majority of the landholders having come to the possession of estates by purchase at public sales, they have no means whatever at their disposal to rebut the presumption which the law raises in favour of the raiyat. In an enhancement-suit a raiyat has simply to set up a plea of fixity of rent, and in more than 95 cases out of 100, at least in Bengal, the plea prevails. Having been unable in most cases to get any records from the former proprietors, or to preserve them from the influences of climate when they get them, the landholders find themselves absolutely powerless to prove that a holding was created, or that the rent payable on it has changed since 1793. It is not because the provisions of the present law regarding enhancement of rent are unworkable, but because of the powerlessness of landholders to rebut the 20 years' presumption that there has been practically no enhancement by suit in Court since 1859. I will read to the Council the opinions of the Hon'ble Mr. Reynolds and of a few experienced judicial officers on this question. The Hon'ble Mr. Reynolds said :—

'Allowing all due weight to the arguments of the Commission, it is to be remembered that the presumption was first introduced by Act X of 1859, and that it was then necessary for the tenant to prove a uniform rate from 1839. It is now only necessary to prove such uniform payment from 1861. As there is reason to think that rent-receipts have been much more regularly given and much more carefully preserved during the last 20 years than during the 20 years which preceded them, it seems to follow that the lapse of time has made it more and more easy to raise the presumption and more and more difficult to rebut it. Nor can it be denied that auction-purchasers labour under a special grievance in this matter. If it be said that they may be expected to regulate their bids accordingly, it may be replied that it is not for the public interest that estates should sell below their value on the ground that the circumstances of the sale facilitate the advancement of fraudulent claims by the tenants.'

"Mr. H. L. Dampier said :—

'The consideration of the 20 years' presumption is again invited by Government. I have given the question all the consideration of which I am capable, and I find no reason to depart from the views which I expressed at length in the report which I submitted to Government on the 19th May, 1881, on Mr. Reynolds' draft Bill. I then, after examining the question, said, in concurrence with the views then held by Mr. Reynolds, that on the whole I would accept 1839 as the starting point for the presumption, as being the most likely to bring the effect of the presumption into accord with the actual rights which it assumes.'

"Mr. E. E. Lewis said :—

'The 20 years' presumption may be abandoned. During the last 25 years the right to hold at fixed rates has been in most cases enquired into, and it would now suffice to call on all who have such a claim to register themselves once for all. This may lead to some present litigation, but the matter would be settled finally. To this arrangement the zamindár could have no objection.'

“ Mr. J. Tweedie said :—

‘ The presumption becomes year by year less likely to be true, and probable truth is the only justification for a legal presumption.’

“ Bábú Nuffer Chunder Bhutta said :—

‘ The 20 years’ presumption, indeed, works injuriously, especially as against auction-purchasers. Since the passing of Act X of 1859 it is now nearly 25 years; so that the owner of a holding that was created even within five years of the passing of that Act may now claim the presumption. In order to obviate this absurdity the period should be increased to, say, 30 years, so that it may be put beyond all doubt that the holding was in existence at least some time before the passing of that Act.’

“ Bábú Sree Nath Roy said :—

‘ In cases of enhancement the question of the nature of the holding would invariably be put in issue, and the 20 years’ presumption in favour of the tenant would be too strong for the zamindárs to overcome. True, this rule has been in force for the last quarter of a century, but experience tells us that there was scarcely a case of enhancement in which the plea of uniformity of rent for 20 years was not taken among others. If the present Bill passes into law without modifications, the natural consequence of this provision, as well as of certain others I have stated elsewhere, would be that measures will not be wanting to vary the rents or to concoct evidence to that effect, and nobody would know rest and contentment in consequence of the disputes and the litigations which would ensue.’

“ Syed Moazzim Hossein said :—

‘ The retention of the 20 years’ presumption rule (section 64, sub-section 2) is no longer necessary in these days. Since the passing of the Act of 1859 every raiyat is expected to be prepared with 20 years’ rent-receipts and shift the onus on the zamindár, who is hereby placed at a greatly disadvantageous position, having to prove his case by production of collection-papers from the Permanent Settlement, which they might be at a loss to preserve. If the Court disbelieve them, there is no other means left to rebut the presumption. The rule, however, goes very harshly against those proprietors who have shown forbearance, particularly towards certain classes of landowners, such as widows, minors and auction-purchasers. The rule practically stops enhancement. If, however, a presumption is to be retained, the period of 20 years should be counted from before the passing of Act X of 1859; otherwise there would be no end of litigation, and no end to the amount of fraud, perjury and collusion between raiyats and zamindárs’ agents, and this will prove highly injurious to the just rights and interests of landholders. It would be better to stop enhancement by law than to propose such changes, which will tend to no benefit of the landlord, and by which the raiyat will unnecessarily lose his time of cultivation and suffer in purse in the bargain.’

“ More than two hon’ble members have spoken of the new facilities for enhancement of rent which the Bill gives to the zamindárs. It would have been more correct to say that the rights of landholders had been in this respect seriously curtailed, and greater obstacles have been placed in their way than what existed at present. I need only mention the provisions about limitation of two annas in the rupee, the reduction of the increase by one-third in working out the rule of proportion, the material alterations made on the grounds of enhancement, and the provision about progressive enhancements, to show what I mean. The landholders have repeatedly represented to the Government that they are perfectly satisfied with the principles of the present law on the subject of enhancement of rent, and that it is the rule of presumption which has hitherto practically barred all enhancement by suit in Court. The injustice of the rule of presumption is further clear from the fact that with all their prestige and influence, and with all the advantage they have over private landholders in the possession of a well-organised system of records, Government have always avoided this rule of presumption as regards their own estates. The presumption is quite the other way as regards Government estates. There is not only no presumption of fixity of rent in any case, but the law also presumes that the assessments made by the Settlement-officer are just, and throws on the raiyat the onus of proving that they are excessive or unjust. The Bill has made no alteration whatever in the matter of this rule of presumption in the interests of private landholders, although it contains an express provision for exempting a majority of Government estates from its operation. To summarise my objections to this rule of presumption, I urge that it is opposed to the recog-

nised principles of evidence ; it has operated to deprive landholders of their just dues ; it raises a presumption of fact which most landholders, and specially auction-purchasers, find it impossible to rebut ; it is condemned by experienced judicial officers ; and, lastly, that the desire of Government to exempt their own estates from its operation clearly shows its injustice."

The Hon'ble MR. QUINTON said :—"I think in the presence of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor and the Hon'ble Mr. Reynolds it will be useless for me to make any remarks on the conditions and status of the Permanent Settlement in Bengal. But with regard to the particular objection that Act X of 1859 protected from enhancement rents which remained unchanged from the time of the Permanent Settlement, I may say that that provision has never been objected to as other than equitable, and we have heard in the discussions which have taken place on this Bill several times that it gives rights to a large number which it is practically impossible for the people to obtain, and is likely to lead to a state of mind and temper in a law-abiding people which might induce them to leave off submitting their claims for the decision of the Courts and to resort to other means of obtaining justice. These considerations were no doubt present in the minds of the framers of Act X of 1859 when they enacted that a tenant who held at an unchanged rate of rent since the time of the Permanent Settlement should be protected against enhancement, and they went on to add that he should not be required to prove that there never had been any change in his rent during the first 70 years from the date of the Permanent Settlement till the passing of Act X of 1859. If they allowed any such provision to remain unqualified in the Act, it would be nothing more than a dead-letter. Therefore they said that in order to establish the right, if the tenant could prove that he had held at the same rent for 20 years, then the presumption should arise that he held at such rent from the time of the Permanent Settlement. But until he proved that he had so held for 20 years the presumption did not arise ; and, if the landlord could prove that in one single year from the time of the Permanent Settlement there had been a *bona fide* change of the rent, the presumption would be rebutted. This provision must appear to any one to be a perfectly reasonable one, and I am glad to hear the hon'ble member admitted it was when that Act was passed. This section does, therefore, but continue that principle of law in the same manner as the principle in English law that a thing is beyond legal memory when it happened at a time when the memory of man runneth not to the contrary. This shows that such a presumption is not so contrary to all principles of equity and justice as the hon'ble member has stated.

"At the time when the Act was passed it was extended to the North-Western Provinces, five districts of which were wholly or partly under permanent settlement, and this provision was, therefore, in force there. In 1873 a fresh rent law was enacted for the North-Western Provinces, and these provisions were continued in that law. Again, in 1881 the rent law of the North-Western Provinces came under revision, and the same provisions were again re-enacted. So that I may say that the legislature in India adopted the principle 25 years ago and re-affirmed it on at least two occasions since. In the same way we held that it would be unreasonable to require a raiyat to prove 12 years' continuous occupancy in the same tenure, and we therefore raised a presumption in his favour which the landlord could rebut. Under these circumstances I do not see how the presumption can be criticised in such unqualified terms of condemnation as the hon'ble member has used. He says many judicial officers have stated that it works hardly on the landlord ; the tenant has got to prove that he has held for 20 years at the same rent ; whereas the landlord has only got to prove that the rent has been changed during one single year. If the landlord has failed to prove this, on what ground can it be said that the presumption works hardly on him ? If the landlord has failed to prove this, is it not fair to suppose that the presumption that the rent remained unchanged from the time of the Permanent Settlement is in accordance with the facts ? I do not understand how the argument brought forward by the hon'ble member can be admitted. I have no doubt the Hon'ble Mr. Reynolds and His Honour the

Lieutenant-Governor will supply any omission which there may be in my answer when applied to the circumstances of Bengal. I can only say that I cannot see the force of the argument."

The Hon'ble MR. REYNOLDS said:—"As the hon'ble member has referred to an opinion which was formerly expressed by me, I should like to be permitted to say that fuller reflection has satisfied me that my opinion was a mistaken one. I was right in saying that in many cases in which the presumption had been used against auction-purchasers it had effected what was not intended by the original framers of the rule; but I failed to take sufficiently into consideration the vast majority of cases which were never brought to trial, because the existence of the presumption had deterred the landlord from venturing to raise the question. In those numerous cases I believe great hardship and injustice would be done to those who were in the minds of the framers of the rule, and who, if the law were now altered, would be quite unable to show that they had held their lands at rents which remained unchanged from the time of the Permanent Settlement. The number of such cases is very great, and I think the injustice which the proposed amendment would cause ought to deter us from making any change. The hon'ble member has referred to my opinion and those of some officers, but I should find no difficulty in bringing quite as many opinions against any change in this provision. Then, as to the statement which has been made that the Government keeps itself clear from the operation of the rule and does not allow the presumption to be raised in its estates, I am not aware what justification there is for that statement: I do not think there is anything either in the present law or in the Bill which exempts Government estates from the operation of the rule. But the presumption does not naturally arise in the case of temporarily-settled estates. In permanently-settled estates, where the raiyat has shown that his rent has remained unchanged for 20 years, the presumption arises that he has held at such rent from the Permanent Settlement. But in estates where the revenue has been periodically altered, the revenue being based on the rent, the presumption is not that the rents have been unchanged but that they have been changed. If a tenant in a Government estate can show that his rent had remained unchanged for 20 years, the presumption would apply to him, and he would be entitled, unless the presumption were rebutted, to continue to hold at that rate. But the great mass of raiyats in Government estates would be unable to establish any such claim, because the fact of periodical changes in the revenue is in itself a presumption that the rent must have varied."

The Hon'ble MR. GIBBON said:—"If this is a Bill, which it is presumed to be, to remedy the wrongs which were committed under previous legislation, I am strongly of opinion that the presumption, as it stands in the Bill, should be modified or it should be omitted altogether. If the wrongs of the raiyats are to be remedied, so ought the wrongs of the landlords. It is a wrong to give any one class of occupancy-raiyats any privilege which their brother raiyats do not possess; and that wrong Act X of 1859 committed. I believe that it was never intended at the time of the Permanent Settlement to allow any class of raiyats to hold their lands at fixed rents—certainly not to afford them the means of acquiring such a right in the future. Section 60 of Regulation VIII of 1793, on which most people who have claimed such a right for the raiyat base their claim, says distinctly that the section shall not apply to Behar; therefore, if the Regulation on which the claim is based makes a distinction between Bengal and Behar and exempts Behar from its operation, nothing in that section could have intended that any class of raiyats in Behar should hold at fixed rates. Under this Bill we are making the right to hold at fixed rates more valuable than it is at present; we are allowing the raiyat to acquire rights under this presumption which even Act X of 1859 never contemplated. We are allowing the raiyat the right to sell, the right to sub-let, guarding him against his sub-lessee acquiring rights under him. We are allowing him to destroy the land, to build on it and to do whatever he likes with it; we are making him the actual proprietor of the land and his position a more enviable one than that of the zamindár. I think it, however, impossible to do away

with this section altogether. Vested rights have accrued which cannot be set aside, but we can avoid allowing a raiyat to acquire rights in the future that he does not possess at present. I therefore think the hon'ble member's second proposal is a sound one, namely, that the presumption should run from a fixed date, to eliminate its accumulative property. But the hon'ble member also proposes to set aside the presumption with regard to tenures, as well as with reference to raiyats; there I think he is wrong, for under the Permanent Settlement Regulations *istimrari* and other tenures existed and had such rights."

His Honour THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR said:—"The hon'ble member in supporting the amendment which we are considering has based his argument on the fact that there is a preponderance of opinion amongst those who have been consulted against the justice of this presumption. I contest that statement. We took a good deal of trouble to analyse the reports when we submitted to the Government of India the letter of the 15th September. In that letter we showed that the result of the examination of the different opinions which came before us was that there is a very large majority in favour of retaining the presumption. The Commissioners of Patna, Burdwan, the Presidency Division and Dacca were unanimously in its favour. With regard to the judicial authorities on whose opinions the hon'ble member relies, I find it stated that a very few would annul it altogether; a larger proportion would modify it, but a still greater number would retain it. There is also the strong opinion of the Native Judge of Burdwan, who said that the rule had worked remarkably well since 1859 without putting any hardship on zamindars. Therefore I contend the authorities are against the hon'ble member. It has been said that the burden of proof lies upon us to establish the equity of this rule of presumption. But the fact is that the rule finds a place in the law as it stands, and it devolves upon those who are opposed to it to give more than general grounds for its abolition.

"The hon'ble member then goes on to speak against the good faith of the Government with regard to the management of its own estates. The other day he told the Council that though the Government are limiting the power of enhancement in the case of zamindars we take care not to bind ourselves by any rules of limitation, and he quoted a number of *khás maháls* in which enhancement of revenue or rent had been excessive. Whatever may have happened before this Bill becomes law is not in point. When this Bill is law the Government will be bound by it exactly in the same way as the zamindar will be bound. But as regards the particular cases to which he alludes, I would point out that the hon'ble member failed to refer to a fact, which will remove the whole gravamen of the charge, that the enhancements in a majority of those cases were of *dearah* lands in which the area of cultivation had increased, and which would therefore naturally come under assessment. That is not enhancement properly so-called, but simply the assessment of rent on an increased area of cultivation. My hon'ble friend Mr. Reynolds has already to some extent answered the charge that the Government takes care to protect itself against the operation of the rule of presumption, and I may add that I really do not know what justification the hon'ble member has for the statement which he makes. He brings forward no instances in support of his charge, but only makes a general statement to that effect. I can say against him only this, that the other day in the particular case of enhancement with regard to the Malinagor village in the Poosa estate, to which the attention of the Council has been more than once directed, where the tenants stated that they had held for 20 years at a uniform rate of rent, that plea was sustained against Government by the Munsif, who threw out all the cases. If the hon'ble member is still determined to press his amendment for the omission of a rule of law the retention of which most of the authorities have recommended, I shall certainly oppose the motion."

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY said:—"I cannot recommend the Council to accept the proposal for the abolition of this rule of presumption. I have to deal now with the arguments on which the proposal for abolition is sustained,

not with any suggestion which may be made for its modification. I do not think the question of the abolition of the rule is within the range of practical politics. The hon'ble gentleman first based his argument for abolition on the ground, as he led the Council to suppose, that the majority of opinions was against it; but, as has been pointed out by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, the majority of opinions is not against it. In quoting these opinions the hon'ble member, as the Lieutenant-Governor pointed out, omitted to mention the fact that the Conferences of Burdwan, of the Presidency Division, of Dacca, of Patna and Orissa are in favour of retaining the rule. Again, as regards the opinions of judicial officers, of which he made a good deal, the tendency is in the opposite direction to what he led the Council to suppose. Bâbûs Mohendro Nath Mittra, Banimadhub Mittra, Amrit Lal Chatterjee, Mohendro Nath Bose, Jogodishvar Gupta, Bipin Chunder Rai, Khetter Prosad Mookerjee, can all be quoted as judicial officers who are in favour of retaining the presumption as it stands, and I can show that a very large majority of them are against abolishing it altogether. Then he said that the vast majority of estates since this presumption became law have changed hands by the operation of the sale law. I cannot conceive what has led the hon'ble member to suppose so, for I find that the average annual number of estates sold in Bengal is one out of every 245, and in the course of 20 years that would not make one-tenth part, much less a majority. I should like to know on what authority he says that 95 per cent. of the estates have changed hands. I can only say that that statement is not borne out by the papers before the Council. But I was still more astounded by the assertion that the Government has made a special law in its own behalf, and has thought fit to exempt its own estates from the operation of this principle. That is not the case. What the Government has done, as the Hon'ble Mr. Reynolds has explained, is to maintain the existing law to the effect that in temporarily-settled estates this presumption does not arise, for the simple reason that where there are periodical alterations of revenue, involving periodical settlements of rent, the presumption is that the rent has not remained unchanged. If, however, a man can prove that he has held at a fixed rate from the time of the Permanent Settlement, his rent cannot be altered; but in regard to this presumption there is absolutely no distinction at all between Government and other estates. There are temporarily-settled estates which are not the property of Government. No distinction is made between these particular estates and temporarily-settled estates under the Government, and, where the Government is the holder of a khâs mahâl which is permanently settled, there is similarly no distinction whatever between them and zamîndâri estates. The whole foundation of the hon'ble member's statement is absolutely incorrect, and, when he goes on to say that the Government in its settlement-proceedings has got enhancement by throwing on the raiyats the burden of proving in the Civil Court that they held from the time of the Permanent Settlement, though the statement is true as to the past, it is grossly misleading, for the hon'ble gentleman has omitted to point out that under this Bill the Government deliberately abolish the old law and the special privileges they had under it, and put themselves in regard to settlement-proceedings exactly on a par with all other landlords."

The Hon'ble Mr. ILBERT said :—"I agree with the majority of the Rent Commission and of the Select Committee on this Bill in thinking that this presumption ought to be retained. I am in favour of retaining it for very much the same reason as that for which I was in favour of the prevailing rate as a ground of enhancement. The twenty years' presumption is as valuable to the tenant as the prevailing rate is to the landlord, and in neither case am I disposed to remove a provision of the existing law merely because its form is capable of being described as embodying an element of fiction. The presumption arising from holding for twenty years at a fixed rate of rent is, as has been pointed out, not unlike the well-known presumption which is created by the English common law, and under which, when it is proved that a man has enjoyed rights of a particular class for twenty years, it is presumed in his favour that he has enjoyed the rights for a period whereof the memory of man runneth not to the contrary, that is to say, for a period which, according to English

lawyers, commences at a point either at or near the beginning of the reign of Richard I.—a date which, I need hardly say, is anterior to the Permanent Settlement. It must be borne in mind that the effect of a presumption such as this is merely to determine the point at which the burden of proof is shifted from one party to the other. Before a raiyat can obtain the benefit of this presumption at all, he must prove that his rent has not been changed for twenty years; it is not until he has discharged this burden of proof that the presumption comes in."

The Hon'ble BĀBŪ PEĀRĪ MOHAN MUKERJĪ said in reply:—"It is a duty I owe to myself that I should state emphatically that when I quoted the opinions of some judicial officers with reference to the harsh working of this rule of presumption I did not say that they represent the majority of opinions on the subject or that there was a preponderating opinion in favour of my proposal. I simply said that there was a number of opinions of judicial officers in support of my view. Again, I am sorry that His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor should have thought that I mentioned the fact of the exemption of Government estates from the operation of this rule of presumption as something against the good faith of the Government. I used the fact simply as showing very clearly the injustice of this rule of presumption—not that the Bengal Government or any Government has taken advantage of an exceptional rule for its own interested purposes, but that, knowing that the application of the rule to Government estates would seriously jeopardise their interests by creating new rights where none existed before, the Government has taken care to exempt its own estates from the operation of the rule of presumption. It was said by the three hon'ble members who have spoken on the subject that I have no warrant for the statement that the rule of presumption does not apply to Government estates. I shall read to the Council the first line of a section which contains this rule. When Act X of 1859 was passed this rule was contained in section 4 of that Act. It said, 'Whenever in any suit *under this Act* it shall be proved'; and when Act X of 1859 was repealed by Bengal Act VIII of 1869 the very same words were reproduced. Can it for a moment be contended that settlements in Government estates were made under those Acts? Is it not Regulation VII of 1822 and Bengal Act III of 1878, and after that Bengal Act VIII of 1879, which give the law for the settlement of rents in Government estates; and is there a single provision in those laws similar to the rule of presumption contained here? Again, it has been observed by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor that I did not state to the Council the other day, when I gave the Council the result of my calculations as to the increase of so many annas in the rupee, that those settlements referred to *dearah* settlements. I took those figures from the Administration Report of the Bengal Government, and there is nothing in the chapter from which the figures were taken to show that they referred to *dearah* settlements. The chapter is headed 'Re-settlements', and I had every right to draw those conclusions when I gave the arithmetical calculation of the amount of increase over the former revenue."

The amendment was put and negatived.

The Hon'ble BĀBŪ PEĀRĪ MOHAN MUKERJĪ moved that in section 50, sub-section (2), lines 5 and 6, for the words "during the twenty years immediately before the institution of the suit or proceeding" the word and figures "since 1839" be substituted. He said:—"As my amendment for the omission of the section has been lost, I propose this amendment with a view to meet the grievance which I presume to think the zamindārs have clearly made out. I think it will be fair and just if the raiyat has to prove that he paid rent at a uniform rate since 1839, that is, 20 years before the passing of Act X of 1859, as was originally recommended by the Hon'ble Mr. Reynolds; and I also beg to move that in sub-section (4), after the word 'apply' the words and figures 'to an estate or tenure sold by public auction since 1859 or to' be inserted. This forms part of the amendment which was originally recommended by the Hon'ble Mr. Reynolds. If it be not desirable to do away with the rule of presumption

altogether, it should be so modified as not to apply to auction-purchasers, and only to cases where uniform payment has been proved from 1839."

The Hon'ble MR. REYNOLDS said :—" I do not think the hon'ble member should again have quoted me after I had recanted the opinion I formerly expressed and told him why I believe I was then wrong. I think the two amendments now proposed will have a harsh and injurious effect, because a large number of tenants who may have thought themselves safe in preserving their receipts for 20 years would now be called upon to produce their receipts from the year 1839. When the conditions referred to in another part of the Bill are fulfilled, when there is a law requiring tenures to be registered in a public office, or a record-of-rights has been made in respect of any local area, then, and not till then, this presumption can be abolished without any danger."

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY said :—" I wish to point out an obvious objection to this amendment. The hon'ble member would exclude from the benefits of this presumption the raiyats of any estate which has been sold by auction. In such cases a raiyat, having kept his receipts and proofs for a period of 20 or 30 years, will fail to have the benefit of this rule of presumption, because his landlord chooses to default and the estate is sold, and he will then no longer be entitled to the benefits which the law since 1859 has secured to him. I ask whether it is reasonable or right that the status of a raiyat should be changed if the estate has changed hands. I do not think anybody would say that."

The amendment was put and negatived.

The Hon'ble BĀBŪ PEĀRĪ MOHAN MUKERJĪ moved that sub-section (4) of section 56 be omitted. He said :—" I consider the provisions of section 58 contain sufficient penalty for defective receipts. If a landlord refuses to give, or does not give, a receipt in the proper form giving all the particulars required, he will be liable under that section to pay to the tenant double the amount of rent paid by him. But this section provides, in addition to that penalty, a presumption in favour of the raiyat to the effect that where the landlord gives a defective receipt it will be presumed to be in full discharge of all demands from the tenant up to the date of that defective receipt ; so that the penalty for giving a defective receipt is greater than for a refusal to give a receipt, although the defect in the receipt might have arisen from ignorance or oversight or carelessness of the zamíndár's agent. I submit that there is no necessity for this provision, because section 58 provides for such cases."

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY said :—" The necessity for this provision has been felt all along. It was started with the idea of requiring receipts to contain certain specific information, which was contained in a recommendation made by the Behar Committee, who remarked very strongly about the way receipts were kept and presented in Court ; and they insisted upon the necessity of the receipts giving certain specific information, and on their being kept in counter-foil. This recommendation was afterwards considered by the Rent Commission, and they came to the same conclusion. As the provision first stood in the Bill it was a great deal more stringent than it is now : the giving of a defective receipt was of itself to operate as a discharge in full up to the date of the receipt ; the presumption now given is nothing if the zamíndár can show that the receipt is not an acquittance in full, or that the particulars required have been *substantially* given. It will only be in the case of wilful omission that the presumption will arise."

The amendment was put and negatived.

The Hon'ble MR. GIBBON moved that in section 58, sub-section (1), for the words " six months " the words " three months " be substituted. He said :—" I would call the attention of the Council to the change about to be made by this section in the law. The present law provides that if a landlord withholds a receipt

he shall be liable to damages, the present law presumes intent to defraud by withholding a receipt, but this section enacts that if a landlord refuses or neglects to deliver a receipt he shall be liable to severe penalties. The proposed section punishes for neglect to deliver, for laziness, forgetfulness on the part of the landlord. The raiyat may bring his rents but fail to bring the account on which the payment is to be entered with him, and yet the Bill will punish the landlord for neglect to deliver. It is impossible for any landlord to prove he has delivered a receipt. I know from my own experience the difficulty of inducing raiyats to receive receipts; they see the amount credited in their account and then they disappear. It is in fact often impossible to give receipts, and this Bill puts further difficulties in their way. It gives the landlord no facilities for delivering receipts, and the only way in which he can possibly give it is by sending it to the tenant in a bearing cover, which will cost him two annas. The withholding of a receipt with intent to defraud should be punished by law, but it is very necessary that the party aggrieved should be obliged to appeal to the Court as soon after the payment is made and the receipt withheld as possible to enable the Courts to judge fairly between them. I have simply provided that the term for instituting a suit under this section should be shortened, so that if the landlord does neglect to give or does withhold a receipt with attempt to defraud, he should be sued without any unnecessary delay."

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY said:—"I have no particular feeling in this matter: I can only say that the term of six months was fixed in Committee after a good deal of discussion."

The Hon'ble MR. HUNTER supported the amendment. He said:—"I think the clause as it stands will place a difficulty in the way of the landlord, and I do not think the proposed amendment will be in any way adverse to the interest of the raiyat."

The amendment was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble BĀBŪ PRĀRĪ MOHAN MUKERJĪ moved that in section 58, subsections (1) and (2), after the word "landlord" the words "after demand by letter duly registered under the Post Office Act" be inserted. He said:—"It is necessary for the ends of justice that before a raiyat is allowed to sue his landlord for a penalty of double the amount of the rent, on the ground that the landlord has refused to give a receipt for the sum paid, there should be a provision in the section for a demand on the landlord in such a way that there should be no reasonable doubt as to the demand having actually been made. As it is, the section will afford very great temptation to the raiyat, after he has paid rent, to refuse to take a receipt, and then resort to the Court to recover double the amount; he has simply to tell the Court 'I paid a particular sum; I asked for a receipt and did not get it; and I claim double the amount as a penalty'. I submit that some provision is necessary for the purpose of giving the landlord some protection against false claims for penalty."

The Hon'ble MR. REYNOLDS said:—"I am not in favour of this amendment, and I would remind the Council that the hon'ble member in speaking on section 58 said that the last clause of that section might be removed because section 58 provided a substantial remedy. But this amendment would really cut out all certainty from section 58, because, although it is reasonable to say that a demand should be made before the raiyat goes to Court, it will be impossible for the raiyat to prove that he made the demand by registered letter, inasmuch as he will be unable to show what the contents of the letter were. I therefore cannot support the amendment."

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY said:—"This proposal was moved in Committee, but was not accepted. I have a good deal of sympathy for landlords in respect to this matter, but I think the hon'ble member's amendment will scarcely secure the proof of the demand having been made, which is what he desires. A registered receipt proves nothing beyond the fact that a letter

was posted: it is no proof of the contents of the letter. I think the contention of my hon'ble friend is a sound one."

The Hon'ble BĀBŪ PRĀMĠ MOHAN MUKERJĠ said:—"The simple posting of the letter would, under the Evidence Act, be a presumption of the letter having been delivered, and a copy of the letter might be produced along with the post office receipt."

The amendment was put and negatived.

The Hon'ble MR. GIBBON moved that in section 58, sub-section (2), the words "the receipt in full discharge or" be omitted. He pointed out that the wording of the Bill was ambiguous, and if the hon'ble member in charge of the Bill could see his way to altering the draft of the sub-section a little, MR. GIBBON would withdraw his amendment.

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY consented, and the Hon'ble MR. GIBBON's amendment was then withdrawn.

The Hon'ble MR. GIBBON moved that in section 58, sub-section (3), line 3, for the word "shall" the word "may" be substituted. He said:—"The sub-section says that if a landlord fails to prepare and retain a counterfoil copy of a receipt or statement as required by either of the said sections 56 and 57, he 'shall' be punished with a fine which may extend to fifty rupees. My object is to make the sub-section permissive and to allow the Courts to exercise some discretion in the matter. There may be many reasons why the landlord may not be able to give a counterfoil receipt or retain a counterfoil copy of a receipt. Section 59 provides that the Government shall supply receipts in printed books. Suppose none are in stock and the landlord not able to procure them. The landlord would in that case be fined fifty rupees in each case; the Courts would have no option but to fine him. It has been said in defence of this section that the Courts may give nominal damages. The Bill now substitutes a penalty for damages. In all cases that a penalty is inflicted and in most cases of damages the penalty carries costs—in themselves a severe penalty. I therefore wish to give the Courts a discretionary power, so that if the landlord is not to blame he should not be punished."

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY said:—"I understand that the wording of this section is adopted from the Penal Code, and there may be a strong objection to alter it; but I think the hon'ble member's objection may be met by inserting the words 'without reasonable cause' after the word 'neglects,' and I have no objection to do so."

The Hon'ble MR. GIBBON accepted this suggestion and withdrew his amendment.

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY then moved the following amendments:—

- (1) that in section 58, sub-section (1), line 1, after the word "landlord" the words "without reasonable cause" be inserted;
- (2) that in section 58, sub-section (2), lines 1 to 3, for the words "If a landlord refuses or neglects to deliver to a tenant demanding the same the receipt in full discharge or" the words "If a landlord without reasonable cause refuses or neglects to deliver to a tenant demanding the same either the receipt in full discharge, or, if the tenant is not entitled to such a receipt," be substituted;
- (3) that in section 58, sub-section (3), line 1, after the word "landlord" the words "without reasonable cause" be inserted.

The amendments were put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble BĀBŪ PEĀRĪ MOHAN MUKERJĪ moved that section 61, sub-section (1), clause (b), be omitted. He said :—"Where the landlord or his agent refuses to accept rent when it is tendered, it should justify the deposit of rent in Court; but where rent was refused several years ago by reason of a dispute as to the amount of rent, or where the question in dispute was as to the right of the party who tendered it, there is no reason why, after such dispute has been amicably settled, that rent should be refused for all time to come. The law should not justify the deposit of rent in Court on the ground that the raiyat had reasonable ground to suppose that the rent would not be received."

The Hon'ble MR. REYNOLDS said :—"I do not think this objection can be raised on the wording of clause (b). The hon'ble member referred to a dispute which had since been amicably settled, but what the clause provides for is a case in which the tenant has reason to believe that, owing to a tender having been refused on a previous occasion, the person to whom his rent is payable will not be willing to receive it and to grant him a receipt for it. That presumes that the cause of dispute is still in active operation, and it seems to me that in such cases the tenant should be at liberty to deposit the rent in Court."

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY said :—"The clause as it now stands was the subject of a good deal of discussion in Committee, and has undergone a considerable amount of alteration. It was explained fully in the Statement of Objects and Reasons, and the Committee thoroughly considered the representations of both parties. The tendency on the one side was to let the raiyat deposit money in Court when he liked, and on the other to insist on the raiyat tendering the amount at the zamindār's kachahri. The zamindārs objected to this provision, because they, or at least their amlā, are unwilling to lose the enormous hold over their raiyats which the necessity of personally appearing at the zamindār's kachahri gives to them. Formerly they had the legal power of arresting a raiyat and forcibly bringing him to the kachahri. When Act X of 1859 abolished that power they declared it would be ruinous to them, and it is the same feeling which prompts them to desire the attendance of the raiyat on all occasions. The feeling is a very intelligible one, for it is by this means that an underpaid body of amlā secure their perquisites; but, on the other hand, there was also a very intelligible feeling that so long as payment of the rent is secured the raiyat should not be forced to submit to an ordeal of the dangers of which he has already had experience. We have modified the section a good deal. As it stood last year it was more in accordance with the amendment which the Hon'ble Amīr Alī thinks necessary; the raiyat would then be the sole judge practically whether the dispute with the landlord is a sufficient ground for depositing the rent in Court. As the section stands, the ground on which this privilege is now given to the raiyat is that rent has been refused on a previous occasion, and we have given a discretionary power to the Court to grant or to refuse the application. Under these circumstances I think the landlords' rights are sufficiently guarded."

The amendment was put and negatived.

The Hon'ble MR. HUNTER moved, on behalf of the Hon'ble Mr. Amīr Alī, that in section 61, sub-section (1), clause (b), line 3, after the word "owing" the words "to any existing dispute or" be inserted. He said :—"The intention of my hon'ble friend is to meet a certain class of cases which sometimes occur in Eastern Bengal. Cases may arise in which it might be very difficult and a little dangerous for the raiyat to go near the office of the zamindār, and he thinks that in such cases tenants should be protected from the necessity of going near the office—an office in which he is likely to receive rough treatment. He therefore proposes this amendment."

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY said :—"As we have accepted the decision of the Committee against an alteration in an opposite direction, I think we ought also to retain the decision of the Committee against any alteration in this direction."

The amendment was put and negatived.

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY moved that in section 65, line 1, before the word "tenure-holder" the word "permanent" be inserted; and that in section 66, sub-section (1), lines 3 and 4, for the words "in respect of the holding of a non-occupancy-raiyat or an under-raiyat" the words "from a tenant not being a permanent tenure-holder, a raiyat holding at fixed rates or an occupancy-raiyat" be substituted.

The amendment was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble BĀBŪ PEĀRĪ MOHAN MUKERJĪ moved that to section 74 the following *exception* be added :—

"*Exception*.—Bonus or salāmi paid to the landlord by the raiyat in consideration of the former allowing the latter to do an act which he is not lawfully entitled to do shall not be deemed an imposition within the meaning of this section."

He said :—"The principle of this amendment, if I recollect right, was not objected to by the Select Committee when the question was discussed. Considering the very heavy penalties which the section imposes for the collection of any sum over and above the actual rent, it is, I think, necessary that an *exception* of this kind should be expressly inserted in the Bill for the purpose of giving protection to the landlord in those cases in which he receives a bonus or salāmi from the raiyat for allowing him to do what he otherwise would have no lawful power to do; as, for instance, when the landlord allows the raiyat to make an excavation and take earth for making bricks. In such cases the salāmi which the zamindār gets from the raiyat should be exempted from the operation of this section."

The Hon'ble RAO SAHEB VISHVANATH NARAYAN MANDLIK said :—"The Government does get such fees in estates which are not permanently settled in the Bombay Presidency. Perhaps the hon'ble member in charge might reconsider the matter."

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY said :—"We have considered the matter. We think there is no objection to the principle which the amendment lays down, but we are very much afraid of its practical operation. The substantive law has been kept as it is, and the old rulings will be applicable to it. Whatever is not illegal now will not be illegal under this Bill; what is illegal now will continue to be illegal still. We have not ventured to touch the section, and for this reason I think it would be unwise to put in the proposed *exception*."

The amendment was put and negatived.

The Hon'ble MR. GIBBON moved that section 75 be omitted. He said :—"The section will, I believe, be practically inoperative in 99 cases out of 100 where it is really required, and act harshly in others where it is not necessary. The cases intended to be got at are cases in which the landlords take abwābs and cesses in lieu of enhancement of rents, and for this purpose the previous section is sufficient. Where the raiyat actually gives them of his own free accord, where they are not exacted but given in lieu of benefits received, this section as it is worded will be inoperative. Exaction means extortion; it implies a certain amount of pressure or restraint. The present law gives damages for extortion; the North-West Act awards compensation for extortion by illegal confinement or duress. This section says the raiyat may sue for a 'penalty' for exaction without declaring what is to constitute exaction. There is a great difference between allowing an injured person to sue for damages and to sue for a penalty. Penalties should in all instances go to the Crown and not to the raiyat; if the raiyat is injured bodily, the Criminal Code should be sufficient to protect him. Damages would be sued for in proportion to the injury suffered. Under this section a raiyat must in every case sue for the whole amount of the penalty. He should not be encouraged to bring a civil suit for Rs. 200 and hope to receive it by way of damages where the actual loss suffered will in most instances be very slight."

The Hon'ble RAO SAHEB VISHVANATH NARAYAN MANDLIK said:—"I agree with the hon'ble mover of the amendment."

The Hon'ble MR. REYNOLDS said:—"Under the present law the raiyat is entitled to sue for damages, but he cannot recover more than double the amount exacted from him. In such cases the landlord takes a comparatively small sum from each of a large number of raiyats, and it seems a mockery to tell a raiyat from whom a sum of Rs. 2 has been exacted that he may sue his landlord with the prospect, if successful, of recovering double the amount. As to the necessity for the section I may refer to the details of a case which has reached me within the last few days in connection with the Patwari Bill now before the Bengal Council. That Bill proposed to levy a patwari cess on the land, to be paid in the first instance by the zamindar, and to give power to the zamindar to recover the cess or a certain proportion of the cess from his under-tenants. In his letter, Mr. Stevenson, a missionary in the Sonthal Parganas, expresses a strong hope that that procedure will not be adopted, and he remarks that the opportunities which will be given by the Bill will be availed of for the purpose of extorting from the raiyats much greater amounts than the authorized cess. He gives a concrete example, and says:—

'As an example of how zamindars as tax-collectors act, I may mention a case the facts of which are before me at present. *K. M.* of the village of *P.*, of the *P.* zamindari, whose annual rent is Rs. 34-10, was asked by his zamindar to pay Rs. 5-6-9 as cesses for the year. On behalf of the raiyat I asked for an explanation of the particulars of the cesses. The explanation given was that there are three cesses to be paid—(1) the road cess, which is two pice in the rupee, but charged on double the rent; (2) the public works cess, also two pice on double the rent; and (3) a rigwari tax, two pice in the rupee on the rent. In this way this raiyat was being made to pay 2½ annas in the rupee on his rent.'

"In this instance the missionary personally interceded for the raiyat, who is possibly a Native Christian, and got the exaction remitted: but he says this case is only an illustration of what is going on all around. That I think is a very strong instance of the necessity for some substantial punishment in cases such as are provided for by this section. The raiyat whose rent was Rs. 34-10 was required to pay Rs. 5-6-9 as cesses for the year. The amount which could be legally claimed from him was 18 annas, and the rest was an illegal exaction. I see that Mr. Stevenson says that it is useless to tell the raiyat that he has his remedy by going into Court and suing the zamindar for double the amount of the exaction. Therefore I trust the Council will agree that this section, which provides a penalty of Rs. 200, ought to be retained."

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY said:—"I agree with my hon'ble friend Mr. Reynolds that the penalty should be substantial. The old power of suing for damages of double the amount of the exaction is obviously useless, as it has failed to be of any effect. The hon'ble mover of the amendment argues that this penalty being by way of punishment it ought to go to the Crown, but I do not see why the raiyat ought not to have the power of suing for penal damages. The levy of two annas or four annas from a man is not a very serious thing, but it is a matter of public policy to put a check upon these exactions. With regard to the particular sum inserted, I may remind the Council that in last year's Bill it was Rs. 500, and it was reduced to Rs. 200 on the motion of the Hon'ble Mr. Gibbon; but I cannot agree that the penalty should be omitted altogether."

The Hon'ble MR. GIBBON said:—"I cannot agree with the hon'ble member in charge of the Bill. On the contrary, the whole of the hon'ble member's statement goes to prove, as I have asserted, that in the majority of cases what this section is intended to hit it does not hit. I quite agree that where a man has exacted payment of any excess, that is, where force has been used, the raiyat should be allowed to sue for damages without limit, but all sums levied by way of penalty should go to the Crown. A man might pay a cess to the zamindar for four or five years, and at the end of the fifth year he may sue under the Bill for Rs. 200 as damages."

The amendment was put and negatived.

The Hon'ble BĀBŪ PRĀRĪ MOHAN MUKERJĪ moved that section 77 be omitted. He said :—" I do not object to the principle of this section. I think that a raiyat whose rent is fixed in perpetuity should have a right to make such improvements as are allowed by the law without any reference to the landlord. But there are two difficulties in the way by reason of which I think this section should be omitted. In the first place it will be a very difficult matter to determine whether a raiyat holds at a fixed rent or at a fixed rate of rent. If the question is referred to the Collector under sub-section (3), the Collector will have to raise a side issue in the first instance and decide the very important question as to whether the raiyat holds at a fixed rate of rent before entering upon the question referred to him, namely, whether the raiyat has the legal right to make the improvement against his landlord's consent. On these grounds I submit that the section should be omitted."

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY said :—" Recognizing, as we do, the force of a good deal of what the hon'ble member has said about the undesirability of raising such an important question as whether a raiyat holds at a fixed rate of rent by a side issue, we are prepared to accept the amendment, namely, to omit section 77, and to give raiyats holding at fixed rates the same rights to improve as an occupancy-raiyat. I shall therefore move in section 78 that the words ' holds at fixed rates or ' be inserted. I propose this without prejudice to the substantive amendment of the hon'ble member."

The amendment was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY then moved that the words " holds at fixed rates or " be inserted after the word " raiyat " in line 1 of section 78.

The amendment was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble BĀBŪ PRĀRĪ MOHAN MUKERJĪ moved that in section 78, sub-section (2), line 2, for the word " raiyat " the word " landlord " be substituted, and that the words beginning with " unless " in that sub-section be omitted. He said :—" Where both the raiyat and landlord desire to make an improvement, I submit that the landlord should be given a preferential right to make the improvement. In the first place, what the raiyat may consider to be an improvement as regards his own holding might not be an improvement as regards the holdings of his neighbours. If the improvement which the raiyat proposes to make, although it may be beneficial to his own holding, is prejudicial to the holdings of other raiyats, the landlord has a right under the Bill to prevent it. It is with the view of preventing disputes between neighbouring raiyats that I think it very desirable that the landlord, whose interest it is to do common justice, should have a preferential right to make an improvement where the improvement is desired by the raiyat, instead of the raiyat being allowed a preferential right to do so against the wish of the landlord."

The Hon'ble MR. REYNOLDS said :—" I think the section embodies the proper rule, and a good deal of the objection which has been raised is provided for by the concluding words of the section, which says ' the raiyat shall have the prior right to make the improvement unless it affects another holding or other holdings under the same landlord.' Where it does not affect other holdings the Bill provides that the person who is primarily interested in the improvement shall have the preferable right to make it, and this is certainly the case with regard to a raiyat holding at fixed rates, whose stake in the land is very considerable. The same remarks apply, though in a less degree, to an occupancy-raiyat. Such a man should not be prevented from making an improvement because the landlord expresses a wish to have the first right to do so. I think the Council should not agree to the amendment."

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY said :—" The question of improvements is one which is really as regards occupancy-raiyats more of theoretical than practical value. As long as the occupancy-raiyat is not ejected for arrears of

rent, compensation for improvements will not have to be paid, and so long the landlord will not trouble himself very much as to whether the raiyat makes improvements or not. But it is of the first importance that we should encourage and strengthen the desire to make improvements. We are often told that raiyats do not make improvements; but in my experience I have found that when improvements are made they are, especially in the case of wells, made by the raiyats; only where the *bhaoli* system prevails it is done under the direction of the landlord. The theory which underlies the whole arrangement is that the landlord has the right to receive the rents; the raiyat has the right to use the land; it is more to his interest that the land should be improved, and therefore he should have the prior right to make improvements. I hope the Council will not accept the amendment."

The amendment was put and negatived.

The Hon'ble MR. HUNTER moved, on behalf of the Hon'ble Mr. Amír Alí, that in section 85, sub-section (1), the words "otherwise than by a registered instrument" be omitted.

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY said:—"As this amendment has not received any support, I see no need to say anything."

The amendment was put and negatived.

The Hon'ble MR. HUNTER, on behalf of the Hon'ble Mr. Amír Alí, moved that in section 85, for sub-section (2) the following be substituted:—

"No sub-lease shall be valid for more than nine years."

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY said:—"In consequence of the last amendment this section is not required."

The amendment was put and negatived.

The Hon'ble BĀBŪ PRĀBĪ MOHAN MUKERJĪ moved that in sub-sections (2) and (3) of section 85, for the word "nine" the word "five" be substituted. He said:—"We are all alive to the evils of sub-letting. Both the Government of India and the Secretary of State have strongly condemned the institution and urged the necessity of discouraging it. Mons. Laveley has told us that it was to his Lordship the President of this Council more than to any other statesman that the exposure of the evils of the institution as it obtains in Ireland is due. Its effect on the condition of the tenants has been the same here as in Ireland. A Flemish peasant is regarded by statesmen and legislators as a model peasant, but before we can hope to see a peasant like him in this country it is necessary to educate the Bengal raiyat to regard with horror the idea of allowing a stranger to settle on his land and farming a portion of it. The Flemish peasant would regard it as altogether monstrous. It is with a view to minimise the evil in this country that I move that the maximum period for which a sub-lease shall hold good should not exceed five years. The Bill makes it nine years, and in so far therefore gives a sub-lessee larger rights than what a non-occupancy-raiyat would get under his judicial lease."

The Hon'ble MR. REYNOLDS said:—"I regret I cannot see my way to support this amendment, because, while I sympathise with the hon'ble member in the desirability of discouraging sub-letting, I am not satisfied that we should effect this object by shortening the term of the engagement. But I hope the improved position of a sub-lessee under the Bill will tend to discourage sub-letting. I may say that this particular term of nine years is the result of a compromise which was the outcome of a long discussion. I therefore think it will be better that the Council should not disturb the agreement to which the Committee came in fixing the term at nine years."

The Hon'ble MR. GIBBON said:—"I would oppose the amendment. If it is carried it will do much not to restrict sub-letting but to encourage it. I quite

agree that the more you wish to restrict sub-letting the stronger you must make the position of the sub-lessee. The sub-lessee has no status under the present law; the occupancy-raiyat who now sub-lets has it in his power to defraud his sub-tenant at pleasure, and it is mainly owing to the occupancy-tenant having this power that the admitted evils of the present *partaoli* system are due. Now that it has been thought necessary to withhold the right to transfer from the raiyat, it is only by sub-letting a portion of his holding that the raiyat will be able to raise money for his requirements; and for this purpose I maintain it is necessary to give him a longer term than nine years, and I would extend it to fifteen years. The more you shorten the period for which sub-letting is to be legalized, the greater the load of debt the raiyat must clear off in a year or the greater the burden of debt will remain on the head of the raiyat at the end of the lease."

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY said:—"It was on consideration for convenience that we came to the particular term of nine years. It was seven years previously in the Bill. An amendment was proposed to increase it to fifteen years, but after considerable discussion the term of nine years was fixed. If you restrict the period, sub-leases will be given under another name. I do not think a sufficiently strong reason has been shown to disturb the conclusion to which the Select Committee came."

The amendment was put and negatived.

The Hon'ble MR. HUNTER, on behalf of the Hon'ble Mr. Amír Alí, by leave withdrew the amendment that in section 85, sub-section (3), the words "by an instrument registered" be omitted.

• The Hon'ble BĀBŪ PEĀRĪ MOHAN MUKERJĪ moved that section 86, sub-section (3), be omitted. He said:—"This sub-section creates for the first time a rule of presumption which, I think, is not altogether warranted. The rule of presumption is this, that if a raiyat takes a new holding in the same village from the same landlord during the agricultural year next following the surrender, or if the raiyat ceases, at least three months before the end of the agricultural year at the end of which the surrender is made, to reside in the village in which the surrendered holding is situate, it shall be presumed, until the contrary is shown, that he has given notice to the landlord for the surrender of his holding. At present the Courts reasonably raise a presumption where it is proved that the land surrendered is let to another raiyat from the beginning of the year; but except that one fact no other fact can raise a presumption like this. It is no ground for a reasonable presumption that a man has taken another holding in the village, because he may wish to have two or three holdings in the same village. That should create no presumption that he has surrendered the previous holding, nor is it a presumption that because he has not resided in the village for three months he has surrendered his holding. Your Lordship will see on turning to section 87 that no presumption of a raiyat having abandoned his holding will be raised until after the expiration of the year in which the raiyat actually abandoned it. But here, when the question is as to whether the raiyat will continue liable for the payment of rent, the Bill contemplates raising the presumption in his favour that he has surrendered simply by the fact of his not living in the village for three months. The two things are incompatible with one another, and the presumption is contrary to actual fact that a man may have several holdings in a village without raising the presumption that he has surrendered any of the holdings he previously held. On these grounds I move that the unnecessary rule of presumption which this section tries to create should be omitted."

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY said:—"If I understand the hon'ble member correctly, he has entirely misunderstood the meaning of the section. This section has nothing to do with surrender; it does not come into effect until the surrender has taken place. The question is, when the raiyat has surrendered, is he still to be held liable for the payment of the next year's rent? If he has

given three months' notice the answer is no, if he has not given it the answer is yes, but we look to the object with which three months' notice is required, and we say if he has left the village, or if he has exchanged his holding for another, then the landlord has already received the information which the notice is intended to secure, and it is here that the presumption comes in. The presumption is not a presumption of surrender, but of service of notice. The raiyat will then be able to say that he gave notice, because the landlord has let him another piece of land in the same village. If this was a presumption of surrender, then there would be some force in the remarks of the hon'ble member; but the question of surrender itself has nothing to do with this section. It is merely a question whether proper notice has been given to the landlord."

The amendment was put and negatived.

The Hon'ble MR. GIBBON moved that section 90, sub-section (2), be omitted. He said:—"This section prohibits the landlord from measuring land more than once in every ten years without the previous consent of the Collector. Where boundary-marks are well defined and the circumstances of the holdings remain fixed from year to year, the landlord will not suffer to any very great extent; a measurement once correctly made will hold good for many years; but in sparsely cultivated districts, such as in North Behar, where raiyats take possession of land without the previous written consent of the landlords, where custom permits the raiyat to take possession of waste land and cultivate it for himself without acquiring the consent of his landlord, the effect will be disastrous. Fallow lands conterminous with the raiyats' lands are encroached upon without the raiyats obtaining the consent of the landlord. Raiyats who wish to protect their lands with an embankment and ditch will, as a rule, erect both embankment and ditch on lands that do not belong to them, and the only means the landlord has of checking trespass is by measurement. The Bill gives the Collector the power to permit measurement whenever he deems fit, but the only reason the landlord could adduce for wishing to measure would be trespass, and the practical effect of this prohibition will be that every case of real trespass which the landlord brings against his raiyat will be construed into an attempt to evade the prohibition, and every request for permission to measure to test trespass will be refused. If any injury will be done to the raiyat by permitting his landlord to measure his land oftener than once in ten years, the injury will not be done by the act of measurement but by the use he makes of such measurement in the Courts afterwards."

The Hon'ble RAO SAHEB VISHVANATH NARAYAN MANDLIK supported the amendment.

The Hon'ble MR. REYNOLDS said:—"I cannot support the amendment, although there may be cases in which the country is only partially cultivated and thinly populated, and in which this sub-section might in some degree prejudice the interests of the landlord; but I cannot in the least agree that the omission of the sub-section will not do the raiyats any injury. The great object of the sub-section is not so much to prevent the landlord from measuring as to prevent harassment to the tenant by continual threats of measuring the land; because there is nothing the raiyat objects to so much as having his land measured, and it is one of the most powerful engines of making the raiyat come to terms. It is to take away the landlord's power in this respect that this sub-section was inserted. The abuse of the provision is sufficiently provided for by clauses (a) to (c), which provide for cases in which the landlord might reasonably be allowed to measure oftener than once in ten years. But as a general rule the period which should be allowed to elapse should be ten years; the omission of the sub-section will put the rights of the raiyats in great danger by the landlord constantly threatening to measure lands."

The Hon'ble MR. GIBBON said:—"If it is from the fear of threats of measurement that the injury to be done to the raiyat is anticipated, then

the section should have been confined to measurement through the Court, and not to the voluntary measurement of land."

The amendment was put and negatived.

The Hon'ble BĀBŪ PEĀRĪ MOHAN MUKERJĪ moved that section 38 of Act VIII of 1869 (B. C.) be added as sub-section (3) of section 91. He said:— "The Bill maintains the right of landholders to measure the lands comprised in their estates, and this section provides for cases in which tenants refuse to attend the measurement and point out the boundaries of their lands. But there is another class of cases in which landholders, and specially those who have come to the possession of estates by purchase at auction-sales, require the assistance of Courts in a much greater degree than in the other. It is where a landholder is unable to ascertain, by reason of a combination among his raiyats, the names of raiyats who hold particular plots of land in his estate. There is no provision in this section which meets such cases. It is true the landholder may proceed under the Record-of-rights chapter, but the procedure which it involves is dilatory and very expensive, and it would throw the local community into a ferment by requiring the landlord to apply for a record of the rights and status of every raiyat on the estate. If a landlord is enabled to ascertain with the assistance of the Court the names of the raiyats on his estate and the areas of the land they hold, the parties will in most cases amicably settle other questions affecting them. Section 38 of the present law gives a simple remedy, and I therefore move that it be added as a sub-section to this section. It runs as follows:—

'If the proprietor of an estate or tenure, or other person entitled to receive the rents of an estate or tenure, is unable to measure the lands comprised in such estate or tenure, or any part thereof, by reason that he cannot ascertain who are the persons liable to pay rent in respect of the lands, or any part of the lands comprised therein, such proprietor or other person may apply to the Court which would have had jurisdiction in case a suit had been brought for the recovery of such lands; and such Court thereupon, and on the necessary costs being deposited therein by the applicant, shall order such lands to be measured, and shall cause a copy of such order to be transmitted to the Collector in whose jurisdiction the lands are situate, together with the sum so deposited for costs; and the Collector shall thereupon proceed to measure such lands, and shall ascertain and record the names of the persons in occupation of the same, or, on the special application of the proprietor or other person aforesaid, but not otherwise, shall proceed to ascertain, determine and record the tenures and under-tenures, the rates of rent payable in respect of such lands, and the persons by whom respectively the rents are payable. If after due enquiry the Collector shall be unable to cause such lands to be measured, or to ascertain or record the names of the persons in occupation of the same, or if he shall (in any case in which such special application shall have been made as aforesaid) be unable to ascertain who are the persons having tenures or under-tenures in such lands, or any part thereof, then and in any such case such Collector may declare the same to have lapsed to the party on whose application such enquiry may have been made. If any person, within fifteen days after such Collector shall have recorded the name of such person as being in occupation of such land, or any part thereof, or shall have declared a tenure to have lapsed, shall appear and show good and sufficient cause for his previous non-appearance, and satisfy such Collector that there has been a failure of justice, such Collector may, upon such terms or conditions as may seem fit, alter or rescind such order according to the justice of the case.'

The Hon'ble MR. REYNOLDS said:—"I think now that we have heard the section read, the Council is in a position to judge how far it answers the description of its being a short and simple procedure. The reasons why the Select Committee have not put into this section any provision corresponding to section 38 were given sufficiently by the hon'ble member in charge of the Bill in his opening speech. When the landlord wishes to measure, he can apply to do so; but where he is in such a position as the hon'ble mover of the amendment has mentioned, when he is a recent auction-purchaser, and does not know who the tenants are, it is intended that he should apply for the preparation of a record-of-rights. The hon'ble member says other questions may arise as to the status of the tenant and his rights in the land, but the landlord will surely wish to know all these particulars, and it is desirable that he should know them."

The Hon'ble MR. GIBBON said:—"I support the amendment, but at the

same time I think it will be better effected under section 158. A few words added to that section will effect all my hon'ble friend requires, and I would rather see an alteration made there than have all the elaborate procedure of section 38 added to the Bill."

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY said :— " I have no objection to the amendment of section 158 in the way proposed by Mr. Gibbon, but I am not sure that that will satisfy the hon'ble mover of the amendment now before the Council. But the hon'ble member greatly facilitates my reply when he says that the procedure of section 38 of Act VIII of 1869 is simple in comparison to a record-of-rights, and that it is not essential for the landlord to have all that information. But the hon'ble member has not read section 39 of that Act, which raises precisely the same difficulty as in the other case, namely, the double procedure of the Court and the Collector instead of the Collector only. I think that the provisions of section 158 of the Bill are ample to secure for the landlord all the information which the hon'ble member requires."

The Hon'ble BĀBŪ PEĀRĪ MOHAN MUKERJĪ said :— " The law contained in section 38 of Act VIII of 1869 has been in operation for twenty years; still there has not been a single complaint of its harsh operation. But I shall be perfectly satisfied on behalf of landlords if some modification be made in section 158 which will give the landlord the right of applying for the purpose of determining who is the tenant of a particular plot of land; as it stands the section does not provide for that, and there is no provision in the Bill which will give the landlord the right to make such an application without subjecting him to all the litigation, expense and trouble of a record-of-rights."

The amendment was put and negatived.

The Hon'ble BĀBŪ PEĀRĪ MOHAN MUKERJĪ moved that sections 93 to 100 be omitted. He said :— " Although a provision for the appointment of managers of joint estates was in the Statute-book up to 1874, it remained a dead-letter, and it was repealed in that year along with other obsolete enactments. No case has been made out for a revival of the provision. The facilities which judge-made law has given for the apportionment of rents payable by raiyats in joint estates at the instance of any co-owner, however small might be his share in the joint estate, render such a provision wholly unnecessary. It is, besides, in the interests of the co-owners themselves and of their raiyats that every encouragement should be given to a partition of estates and tenures among the co-parceners, and the tendency of recent legislation has also been in that direction. The provisions contained in these sections would conflict with the wisdom of such a policy, and would therefore be a retrograde move."

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY said :— " I am afraid I cannot quite accept in the name of the Select Committee the particular statement of the law laid down by the hon'ble member, nor his recommendation that these sections be omitted. At the risk of detaining the Council I will read what the Rent Commission reported as to the state of facts necessitating the introduction of these sections, and as to the state of the law at present. The fact of the statement being made on the authority of Mr. Field is, I think, a sufficient proof of the present law. The Commission said :—

' A serious source of difficulty in the relations between landlords and tenants arises out of the system of co-parcenary which is customary amongst Hindūs, and is not uncommonly imitated by Muhammadans. When coparceners or co-sharers, as they are commonly called, stand in the position of landlords, and manage their affairs either through a single member of the family (*karia*) or through a manager appointed by, and acting for, all, there is no difficulty, and the tenants are put to no greater inconvenience than the tenants of other landlords. But when, on the contrary, the co-sharers are disunited and dissension prevails amongst them, their tenants are exposed to considerable harassment. The rent is payable to the co-sharers jointly, and properly upon their joint receipt; but each attempts to collect separately the share to which he conceives himself entitled; and the tenant who would comply with all their demands would find that he had to pay a considerable amount more than his actual rent. Then the

servants and adherents of each co-sharer seek their own perquisites, and, in order to obtain these, delude the ignorant raiyats, who are thus induced to pay more rent to one co-sharer than he is entitled to receive; or, for the purpose of manufacturing evidence, receipts are given for a larger share, while in fact less sums were paid than appear in these fraudulent documents. Each co-sharer attempts to enhance the rents of his share, although no partition has been made; or each seeks to make a measurement, and rival *amins* prepare *chitahs*, the entries in which are regulated by the gratifications which the raiyats are able or willing to give them. Litigation ensues, and the tenants side with this co-sharer or that; they give evidence and earn brief gratitude from one party, undying hatred from the other. A riot takes place between the adherents of the opposite parties, and the police appear on the spot to reap a rich harvest. The raiyats are impoverished, cultivation thrown back, and distrust and dissension pervade the village. Such is a picture, by no means overdrawn, of the pernicious results of want of union amongst a brotherhood of landlords.

'The necessity of a remedy for this state of things was felt at an early period of British administration, and in 1812 it was enacted that, inasmuch as inconvenience to the public and injury to private rights had been experienced in certain cases from disputes subsisting among the proprietors of joint undivided estates, whenever sufficient cause shall be shown by the revenue-authorities or by any of the individuals holding an interest in such estates for the interposition of the Courts of judicature, it shall be competent to the Zila Judges to appoint a person duly qualified and under proper security to manage the estate; that is, to collect the rents and discharge the public revenue, and provide for the cultivation and future improvement of the estate (Regulation V of 1812, section 26). The Judge was also competent, upon the representation of the Revenue-authorities, or of any such person as aforesaid, to remove any manager so appointed (*id.*, section 27). A subsequent Regulation (V of 1827) enacted that when the Zila Court thought it just and proper under the provision of that Regulation to provide for the administration or management of landed property, it should issue a precept to the Collector directing him to hold the estate in attachment and appoint a person for the due care and management thereof, under good and adequate security for the faithful discharge of the trust in a sum proportionate to the extent thereof. The reference in Regulation V of 1827 to Regulation V of 1812 was repealed by Act XVI of 1874, so that it is not now competent to a District Judge to send a precept to the Collector directing him to provide for the management of an estate belonging to a joint undivided family. The fragment of Regulation V of 1812 which is still in force is incomplete, and in consequence almost inoperative.

'Such being the present state of the law, a majority of us have thought that this fragment might well be repealed and a complete set of effective provisions substituted therefor.'

"That is the opinion of the Rent Commission, and it was accepted in the first draft Bill, and with certain slight alterations has been retained in the various subsequent editions of the Bill. In regard to the details no amendment is proposed or objection made, and I must oppose the amendment."

The Hon'ble BĀBŪ PEĀRI MOHAN MUKERJI said:—"I should have liked the hon'ble the Law Member to have given his opinion on the state of the law at present, but I submit that the repeal of a repealing Act can never revive the Act which had been repealed. I think that is the principle of construction of enactments, and in that view there is no law since 1874 for the appointment of managers of joint estates in this country."

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT begged to explain that the Hon'ble Peāri Mohan Mukerji was under a misapprehension in supposing that section 26 of Regulation V of 1812 had been repealed. That section was printed as existing law in Mr. Whitley Stokes' edition of the Lower Provinces Code, which was published in 1878 (Vol. I, p. 111); and, without going into technical considerations, he would merely say that in his opinion it was rightly so printed. The hon'ble member had probably misconceived the extent of the repeal clause in Part VI of the schedule to Act XVI of 1874.

The amendment was put and negatived.

The Hon'ble BĀBŪ PEĀRI MOHAN MUKERJI moved that sections 101 to 115 be omitted. He said:—"When giving his sanction to the provisions regarding record-of-rights, Her Majesty's Secretary of State expressed his apprehension that the difficulties of carrying out the measure may prove greater than the Government of India anticipated. But the practical difficulties of the measure are not the most prominent among its objectionable features. It would cause irritation among landlords and raiyats, and convulse rural society to an extent of which those who are not thoroughly acquainted

with the details of our agrarian economy can have little idea. Landholders and raiyats alike have repeatedly prayed the legislature to expunge these provisions from the Bill, as they would do good to neither. They involve an amount of expense and irritating enquiry which will be far from compensated by the result, and it is on this account that to no part of the Bill have the raiyats from different parts of the country offered more opposition than to this."

The Hon'ble MR. EVANS said :—"I do not agree with the hon'ble member. There is no doubt that when a record-of-rights is sought to be made over a particular area there will be a considerable amount of contest at the time. But when it has been made, every landlord and every tenant will really be better off and these records will give facilities in dealing with cases. If such a thing as a cadastral survey and record-of-rights is carried out over the whole of Bengal, it will remove a large source of litigation and uncertainty. Much must be left to the discretion of the Local Government as regards when and where and to what extent the survey and record is to be made. I stated my opinion on this matter when this Bill was referred to the Select Committee. I quite understand that friction must be produced to obtain it, but the ultimate benefit will be so great as to counterbalance the friction."

The Hon'ble MR. REYNOLDS said :—"I think the hon'ble member has overlooked the fact that this chapter, which he desires to omit, will apply to Government settlements. The settlement procedure law is at present contained in Bengal Act VIII of 1879, which this Bill proposes to repeal, and I do not observe that the hon'ble member has any motion for the omission of that Act from the schedule of Acts to be repealed. The result of this amendment, would, therefore, be to leave the Government no means of conducting a settlement of revenue in Government estates except the old Regulation of 1822. I do not think he contemplated any such result."

The Hon'ble MR. GIBBON said :—"I oppose the amendment. I think the chapter as now drafted in the Bill will be more beneficial to landlords than to tenants. In fact, speaking personally as a landholder, I look forward to the operation of this chapter to undo much of the harm which will be done to the landlord's interests under section 18. When it was first proposed and as it stood in Bill No. II, I objected to this chapter, but the Select Committee has removed every objection I had to it, and I look forward to the beneficial effects of this chapter both in the interest of the landlord as well as in those of the raiyat."

His Honour THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR said :—"I am glad to find from quarters so different a concurrence of opinion in favour of this chapter as one of great importance and necessity. For myself I would sooner omit very many other portions of the Bill than this one. It provides for the first serious attempt to secure that which is absolutely required, by means of a careful record-of-rights, not only for the better administration of the country, but for a better understanding between landlords and tenants of their respective positions. Until such a record has been made, we shall have made no progress in the settlement of disputes arising between landlords and tenants. The difficulties to which the hon'ble member refers are difficulties which I am sure we can get over. For if such difficulties have been overcome in a province like the Punjab, we need fear no serious difficulty in a province like Bengal. We are not intending to press on this process with anything like undue haste or to force it on with undue precipitation. With the sanction of the Secretary of State and of the Government of India the utmost we should attempt in the first instance would be one single district, and we shall be guided much by the success we meet with in that district before proceeding further. I am sure I speak the conviction of the Hon'ble Rao Sahib Mandlik and of every person who comes from that part of India which he represents when I say that where a record-of-rights prevails it has been found to be good and beneficial for all sections of the landholding community."

The Hon'ble RAO SAHEB VISHVANATH NARAYAN MANDLIK reserved his observations until the subsequent amendment in his name came on.

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY said:—"I can hardly be expected to accept a proposal for the omission of this chapter, in the settlement of which the Select Committee has taken an immense deal of pains, and which I think has been reduced to a shape in which it may be worked beneficially and without serious risk of danger to any one. The chapter covers very large ground and can be applied to various cases, individual and general; it may be applied to a tenure or part of a tenure or to a whole district. But I think there has been some misapprehension in the mind of the hon'ble mover of the amendment as to the Secretary of State's opinion, and I may be allowed to quote his words. He says:—

'While fully admitting the advantages which would attend the establishment of village records and accounts, the formation of a record-of-rights, and the introduction of a field survey, I cannot avoid the apprehension that the difficulties of carrying out these measures in those parts of Bengal in which village accounts and accountants, if they ever existed, have long ago entirely disappeared, even from tradition and remembrance, may prove greater than you anticipate. Your present proposal, however, merely contemplates an experimental commencement of the work in the Patna Division of the Province of Behar, where the need for it is, you think, most pressing, and the conditions least unfavourable; and to this I will make no objection.'

"You have heard just now from His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor that this order of the Secretary of State is still in full force, and that at present he has no intention of going beyond it. Certain provisions of this chapter are of course applicable everywhere. A landlord in Bengal proper may apply to have these settlement-operations brought into effect in regard to his estate or a portion of his estate; or on a riot taking place in any single landlord's estate, the Local Government may apply to the Government of India for permission to put it in force in that estate. But with regard to a general record-of-rights, not only is it distinctly understood that the Lieutenant-Governor will apply it only in some one selected district in Behar and abide by the results of that experiment, but it is also certain that, as the Secretary of State has not sanctioned anything beyond that, nothing beyond it will be carried out until the Secretary of State does sanction it. The result I am unwilling to prophesy, but I do say that, as in the neighbouring district of Benares, the operation has been most successfully carried out without much friction and has been the salvation of the tenant, a similar operation may be conducted in the province of Behar, which is in almost all respects similar to the districts bordering it in the North-Western Provinces. I do not see why what has been worked so successfully in the North-Western Provinces should be inapplicable to Behar. There is one portion of the chapter to which further allusion will be made when the Hon'ble Rao Saheb Mandlik makes his proposal. I will only say that we look on the provision to which the hon'ble member's amendment refers (section 112) as particularly necessary to be kept in the Bill, but we hope sincerely never to have occasion to use it. It is a very strong power kept in the background to be used when the operation of the ordinary law is not found sufficient. With these remarks I oppose the motion."

His Excellency THE PRESIDENT observed that he had been very much struck by the almost complete unanimity of opinion which prevailed in the Council as to the utility of this chapter. At the same time he was perfectly able to comprehend the natural anxiety which its unreserved application over very extensive areas would occasion both to the raiyats and the zamindars. Regarding the question in the abstract, it was perfectly obvious that one of the first steps towards the cessation of litigation and ill-feeling between two antagonistic interests, was that they should each know exactly what belonged to them; therefore no one. HIS EXCELLENCY imagined, not even the hon'ble member himself, could in theory be opposed to the introduction of this chapter. At the same time HIS EXCELLENCY could assure the hon'ble member that not only in deference to the suggestions made to them by the Secretary of State, but also from their own appreciation of the exigencies of the case, the Government of India would be indisposed to consent to the application of the sections referred to otherwise than in the sense and spirit recommended by Lord Kimberley. By applying the machinery of the chapter to a special and limited area in a

tentative method they would be able to observe how the clauses were likely to work, and there was every hope that by that cautious method of procedure they would be able to obviate those objections to which the hon'ble member had referred.

The amendment was put and negatived.

The Hon'ble RAO SAHEB VISHVANATH NARAYAN MANDLIK moved that to section 112 the following be added :—

“Where the Local Government takes any action under this section, the settlement-record prepared by the Revenue-officer shall not take effect until it has been finally confirmed by the Governor General in Council.”

He said :—“This chapter has been admitted by the hon'ble member in charge of the Bill to be exceptional, and I do hope with him that the occasions on which it will be necessary to invoke its aid may not be so frequent as His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor thinks they might be. No doubt cases will arise in which it will be necessary to impose the strong arm of the executive power to bring contending parties to submit to rents by settlement. And, therefore, as in some portions of this chapter, leave is given to settle rents and to reduce rents and to do what in the opinion of the Revenue-officers entrusted with carrying out the operations of this chapter (the effect of which will be to suspend at least for the time the operation of the general law) may be necessary to be done with regard to private property. I think, however, that it is so necessary for the satisfaction of both landlords and tenants that an opportunity should be given for appealing to the Government of India before the record becomes final, that I feel it essential in the interests of the public that a proviso, such as that which I now propose, should be enacted. I distrust nobody, and no doubt Your Lordship is impressed by the fact that these sections of the Bill are necessary to good government; but to me they throw a new light on the state of affairs in this province, and it is only as such that I can view them. But I think it is essential when the ordinary law is suspended that the Government of India should be a referee in the last resort for the purpose of confirming that record when it has been prepared. I move this amendment in the interests of the public, and it will in my view give more assurance to all parties concerned. A reference has been made to me with reference to the Bombay Presidency, and I can say at once that there is no such record-of-rights there. I do not wish to go into the general question, which is a very large one, and under the circumstances disclosed in paragraph 42 of the Select Committee's Report, I do not wish to raise any question about it. I think that when the Government of India determines that sufficient reasons exist to introduce this chapter, they should be entrusted with the duty of seeing that the record should be so prepared that it may be adopted as the future record-of-rights.”

The Hon'ble MR. REYNOLDS said :—“I cannot agree with the hon'ble member that the procedure under section 112 will really be a procedure of the executive authorities, though it will be initiated by the Executive Government. I think the hon'ble member has overlooked the fact that proceedings under this section will be conducted under the usual procedure laid down in this chapter; consequently the decisions of the Revenue-officers will be appealable to the Judge and to the High Court. I confess it appears to me somewhat unnecessary, when such proceedings have received the sanction of what is practically the highest judicial authority, to say that they shall not take effect until finally approved by the Government of India. I presume the hon'ble member thinks that they ought to have the confirmation of the highest executive authority. But it seems to me that, as the procedure will not be of an executive but of a judicial character, there is no necessity for the confirmation of the Governor General in Council to give validity to it.”

His Honour THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR said :—“As the section to which the amendment refers is a special procedure to be resorted to in special cases, I should not have thought there was any necessity for a reference to the

Governor General in Council before the Lieutenant-Governor can bring it into operation. I believe a great deal of the procedure contained in this section is derived from the Agrarian Disturbances Act, and it is with the view of suppressing threatened disturbances rather than actual disturbances at great emergencies between landlords and tenants that summary provisions like these have been proposed with a view to give the Local Government power to prevent those disturbances. As the Bill stands, the sanction of the Government of India is required before the Lieutenant-Governor can take any steps in the matter. If that precaution is not sufficient, but it is considered advisable that the final record should not become valid before it receives the sanction of the Governor General in Council, I shall not oppose the amendment."

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY said:—"I look upon this subject from the same point of view as His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor. I think this is a special procedure, only to be used under exceptional circumstances, although the rights which will thereby be settled will be settled judicially by the Settlement-officers, who work under the safeguard of an appeal first to the Special Judge, and afterwards to the High Court. Still as the power of reducing rents is given by this section, and not elsewhere, I quite agree that it might be considered an additional safeguard if the settlement requires the confirmation of the Governor General in Council. In that view I accept the amendment."

The amendment was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble MR. GIBBON moved that in section 120, sub-section (1), clause (a), after the word "before" the words "or after" be inserted. He said:—"I believe I am right in saying that this is the only attempt ever made under any law to define what are proprietors' private lands. The present law on the subject is contained in section 6 of Act VIII of 1869 (B.C.), which simply says that occupancy-rights shall not be acquired by raiyats holding lands held by landlords as zirát. No attempt has ever hitherto been made to define what zirát lands are. The intention is to continue those lands as zirát which are actually existing as such, and the object is to enable the landlord to avoid the accrual of occupancy-rights in them. Although it may be easy for a landlord now to prove that he has held lands as zirát for 12 years, this Bill is not likely to be amended for some time to come, and some years hence it will be impossible for a landlord to prove what lands he held as zirát 12 years before the introduction of this Act and what he acquired afterwards. We allow a settled raiyat to sub-let for one year land occupied by him, but a sub-lessee does not acquire any rights in lands so leased to him. If a landlord has held zirát land for 12 years, we should assume that he wishes to cultivate it himself. At the same time he may wish to sub-let it for some reason or other for a year or two, but under this Bill if he does so his right to recover possession will be forfeited. I think that it will be very hard on the landlord. I think that 12 years' continuous cultivation should give the landlord a right to protect his interest when he sub-lets the land for a temporary purpose only, and I think we should under this Bill provide the means to enable him to do so, and for this purpose I would move that the words 'or after' be inserted."

The Hon'ble MR. EVANS said:—"I agree with the hon'ble member. I think the desire of landlords to cultivate by their own servants or by hired labour should not be discouraged. There are only a few classes of landlords who cultivate their own lands, and it is very natural and proper that they should have the power to do so considering the valuable crops which are so cultivated. Unless, therefore, there is some policy underlying this section adverse to the holding of lands for the cultivation of valuable crops, such as tea, indigo and opium, in case the opium monopoly is given up, there appears to me to be no reason why it should not be considered that, when a landholder cultivates lands for 12 years, he intends to hold those lands in his own cultivation, nor is there any reason why he should not be allowed to let it for a year or two for purposes of the rotation of crops and the like."

The Hon'ble RAO SAHEB VISHVANATH NARAYAN MANDLIK said:—"I shall vote for the amendment. I have gone through the whole chapter relating to waste lands, and there appears to me to be no reason for prohibiting a man who is a large proprietor of waste lands from reserving to himself certain lands for his home farm. But by this section, directly he lets in a cultivator, he loses the land. The certain effect of this provision, I think, will be that he will let in no cultivator, and unless an increase of hired labourers is in view, the object of the Act will be defeated by these very restrictions."

The Hon'ble MR. REYNOLDS said:—"The amendment would have the effect of defeating the object which the Government of Bengal has in view. There are now, and always have been, two great classes of lands—*rai-yati* lands in which the right of occupancy accrues, and *khámár* lands in which such rights cannot accrue; and it is the object of this section, and has always been the object of the Government of Bengal, that the stock of *khámár* lands should not be increased to the diminution of the area of *rai-yati* lands. There is undoubtedly evidence before the Government of Bengal and in the papers before the Council to show that there has been great misappropriation of lands as *khámár* lands on the part of landlords in Behar, and especially on the part of planters. The hon'ble member urged that it would be impossible for landlords to show that they had cultivated particular lands for 12 years. If a landlord is put into difficulty in that respect, he can proceed under section 118. He is at liberty to apply to have his *khámár* lands demarcated and recorded, and if he does so there cannot be any chance of his being deprived of those lands afterwards; but it is certainly the intention that *khámár* lands should not be added to in future. There is a system in Behar under which landlords record as *khámár* lands which are taken in exchange from *rai-yats*, and the lands received in return by *rai-yats* are also placed under the same heading; so that the result has been to turn *rai-yati* lands into *khámár* lands. I do not say more than what I see has been said in Mr. Edgar's note on rent questions in Behar. The result of saying 'before or after' will be to allow landlords at any time to take up lands, to cultivate them for 12 years, and thus to prevent occupancy-rights from accruing. It is certainly not the intention of the present law that landlords should have this power. The proprietor has the power to keep newly-cultivated lands to himself if he pleases, but I am not aware of any rule to prevent the accrual of occupancy-rights if he lets those lands. If a proprietor takes waste under cultivation after the record contemplated in this chapter has been made, he will have power to keep it under his own cultivation. This question will shortly be raised on the motion of my hon'ble friend Mr. Hunter, and I think that amendment will *bona fide* raise the question of waste lands. The effect will not be permanently to bar the acquisition of occupancy-rights, but it will be sufficient to enable the landlord to cover any expenditure incurred by him. But the effect of the present amendment will be to prevent the acquisition of occupancy-rights for ever in lands which come into the temporary possession of the zamindár. The section as it stands will give the landlord probably more than he is entitled to have: if he has cultivated for 12 years, the Revenue-officer will not look further; he will have to record the lands as private lands. In the same way he will be bound to record all cultivated land which is recognised as *khámár*. Under these rules I cannot think that the section is in any way unfair to the landlord, and I think any extension of them which would allow him, by taking possession and holding lands after the passing of the Act, to increase the stock of *khámár* lands, will not be in accordance with what is intended by this chapter, and it will not provide a remedy for an acknowledged evil in Behar."

The Hon'ble MR. HUNTER said:—"I support this amendment. The hon'ble the Law Member told the Council in eloquent words the other day that the man who cultivates for a profit is now coming face to face with the man who cultivates for a subsistence. The Bill makes many and valuable provisions for the man who cultivates for a subsistence, and I think the hon'ble gentleman who brought forward this motion might fairly ask the Council to accept his amendment in favour of the man who cultivates for a profit. The last speaker has dwelt on the dangers of the landholders encroaching upon large

arens as private lands. I admit that such dangers existed in times past, but I think they are sufficiently provided for by the khámár and contract clauses in the Bill. I therefore think it would be sound policy to accept the amendment proposed by my hon'ble friend."

His Honour THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR said:—"I have only a few words to say in addition to what has fallen from my hon'ble friend Mr. Reynolds. When the Bill was originally drawn it contained a provision which required the Local Government to order a measurement and separation of private lands of proprietors in each village from raiyati lands in the possession of cultivators. That was modified as the discussions went on by making that provision permissive instead of imperative, and it did not include the words 'or after' which the hon'ble member very ingeniously wishes to introduce now. The object of not inserting those words was to give protection to raiyati lands against any future encroachment on the part of the zamíndár. Lands which for twelve years before the passing of this Act are shown as domain land will be protected. But if you give power at any time after the passing of the Act to carry on that process to any extent to which the landlord may be willing, lands which are now raiyati may be converted into domain or private lands. That was thought undesirable. The zamíndár will at all times have the right to cultivate as much land as may be surrendered to him by hired labour, the only condition being that, if he lets it out to tenants, they will have the chance of growing up into raiyats with rights of occupancy. I think on the whole the advantage is on the side of retaining the section as it stands."

'The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY said:—"This section is one which has troubled my mind a good deal. I am very anxious to meet the wishes of my hon'ble friend, but, as it stands, I see great objection to accepting this amendment. As I said before, it is necessary that we should understand that the sole distinction between khámár lands and raiyati lands is that if raiyati land is let to occupiers they acquire occupancy-rights, and that if khámár lands are let occupancy-rights will not accrue. The landlord is at liberty whenever he gets possession of land to cultivate it with hired labour. As has been said by my hon'ble friend Mr. Reynolds, there is ample evidence before the Government to show that a very large proportion of what are or ought to be raiyati lands in Behar has been shown or recorded as zirát or domain lands. If land was surrendered or abandoned it became zirát, and I have known cases of lands exchanged for indigo-cultivation, in which not only does the old land now made over to the raiyat for indigo appear as zirát, but the land which he gives up in exchange is also added to the stock of zirát lands. That has been carried to an extent which presses very severely on the extremely large population of Behar, which has an agrarian population of 800 to the square mile; and it was to put a stop to this state of things that this section was first introduced. So far as the subsequent sections are concerned, there is no objection. The object of the hon'ble mover of the amendment is this. You provide that land which has been cultivated by a zamíndár for 12 years before the passing of the Act should be recorded as zirát land. But suppose no Settlement-officer should come on the ground for 20 years; if you put off your enquiries for 15 or 20 years, it is difficult for the landlord to prove that he cultivated particular lands for 12 years before the passing of the Act. That is certainly fair argument. But section 118 has been introduced to meet this difficulty. It allows a landlord to go before a Revenue-officer tomorrow and ask him to record the land which he holds as private lands now, and he saves himself from any difficulty about inquiry on a future date as to facts belonging to the past. The Select Committee on the whole thought that section 118 was sufficient to meet that difficulty. Then there is the danger, which my hon'ble friend Mr. Reynolds has pointed out, that if you put in the words 'or after,' and if the same system of retaining surrendered lands goes on as hitherto, suppose the landlord cultivates that land, it will become zirát land in time. On the other hand, if the Revenue-officer comes immediately after the passing of the Act, and the 12 years' cultivation accrue afterwards, then the amendment will fail to meet the object with which it is introduced. Then, as regards lands

which are at present actually waste, I mean jungle land, my hon'ble friend Mr. Hunter has an amendment dealing with that particular case. I am prepared to consider that amendment, and although I do not see my way to go quite so far as the Hon'ble Mr. Gibbon desires, I am quite prepared to take a different view with regard to waste lands, and to secure such land under certain restrictions to the landlord who breaks it up."

The Hon'ble MR. GIBBON said:—"I would like to clear up some extraordinary misapprehension influencing the minds of some hon'ble members with regard to this matter. The hon'ble member opposite spoke of landlords' zirats. This section refers only to proprietary lands, not to the class of lands to which the hon'ble member referred. The hon'ble member spoke of the encroachments of planters on the raiyats' cultivation of the country and their misappropriation of lands, and in order to check planters misappropriating land wished to see these restrictions placed on the acquisition of zirát lands by proprietors; but planters are not proprietors; they are thikadár landlords, and this section will not affect them. If the object of this section is to prevent landlords in general acquiring lands for their own purposes, then that object is not effected; if such landlords are affected at all, they will be affected under the merger clause. When a proprietor has cultivated particular lands as private lands for 12 consecutive years and thereby acquired private rights in that land, I submit that he should be permitted to acquire such rights by 12 years' cultivation whether the land was cultivated for 12 years before or after the passing of the Act."

The amendment being put, the Council divided:—

Ayes.

The Hon'ble G. H. P. Evans.
The Hon'ble H. St. A. Goodrich.
The Hon'ble Peári Mohan Mukerji.
The Hon'ble Rao Sahab Vishvanath
Narayan Mandlik.
The Hon'ble W. W. Hunter.
The Hon'ble T. M. Gibbon.

Noes.

The Hon'ble J. W. Quinton.
The Hon'ble H. J. Reynolds.
The Hon'ble T. C. Hope.
The Hon'ble Sir S. C. Bayley.
The Hon'ble C. P. Ilbert.
Lieutenant-General the Hon'ble T. F.
Wilson.
The Hon'ble J. Gibbs.
His Excellency the Commander-in-
Chief.
His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor
of Bengal.

So the amendment was negatived.

The Hon'ble BĀBÚ PEĀRI MOHAN MUKERJI moved that for sections 121 to 142, sections 68 to 101 of Act VIII of 1869 (B. C.) be substituted. He said:—"The provisions of the Bill amount virtually to an abolition of the institution of distraint. They give the landholder nothing beyond what every plaintiff may have under the Code of Civil Procedure. They amount virtually to provisions for attachment before judgment, and in so far they are miscalled provisions for distraint. They might well have been omitted altogether. And yet the Government of India in their despatch to the Secretary of State stated in one of their proposals that they would give the landholders a modified form of distraint which would enable them to collect their rents with greater ease than at present, and thus led them to expect that larger powers would be given them in this direction. The provisions in question go quite the contrary way. I know of no complaint of the powers of distraint having been abused, at least in Bengal. The provisions of the present law are such that no abuse of the powers of distraint can be made with impunity. They give, moreover, few opportunities to the landholder or his agent for the abuse of power. They simply allow him to attach the crops by word of mouth, but he cannot interfere with

the crops or with the tenant's right to do with them as he likes unless with the help of the Court. It is the fear of the consequences to the raiyat if he removes the distrained crop that constitutes the soul of the institution. If the raiyats had been a substantial class of men, possessing means and resources which the landholders could fall back upon for the recovery of their rents, the institution, of distraint would have been comparatively unimportant. But, knowing, as we do, that the crops constitute in most cases the landlord's security for his rent, specially in the case of non-resident-raiyats, the abolition of the institution or a modification of it in the way contemplated by the Bill would throw the greatest obstacle in the way of recovery of rent. Besides, the expensive procedure which the Bill gives the landholders would ultimately add to the burden on the raiyat and injure him perhaps more than his landlord. In cases, again, where the raiyat will remove his crop while the landlord is engaged in getting out an attachment from Court, the latter would not only lose his rent but also his expenses. I may mention that the Presidency Conference, the Patna Conference, the Burdwan Conference, the Rajshahye Conference, the Orissa Conference, and a number of high officers of State recommend that the provisions of the present law should be maintained."

The Hon'ble MR. EVANS said :—" It is certain there is abuse of distraint in certain parts of the country which needs remedy. The doubt is whether the remedy will not prove more grievous than the disease, unless the legal processes of distraint are made cheaper. Hoping that steps will be taken to reduce the process-fees, I shall oppose the amendment."

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY said :—" I was sorry to hear the hon'ble mover of the amendment say that in writing to the Secretary of State we had given the zamindárs the promise of a simplified form of distraint and that we had not carried out that promise. "The hon'ble member referred to the summary of our recommendations, which runs as follows :—

'To provide for the more speedy realization of arrears of rent when the rates are undisputed by a modified method of distraint, and an abbreviated procedure, as recommended by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.'

"Unfortunately, however, the hon'ble member must have omitted to refer to the body of the despatch which explains the scheme. Had he turned to paragraph 98 of the despatch he would have seen that the Government of India wrote as follows :—

'As already mentioned, the Rent Law Commissioners recommended the abolition of distraint, but the reports of the district and divisional officers, and the urgent representations of the zamindárs, led to a general concurrence of authoritative opinion that distraint must, in some shape, and at least for the present, be maintained. We accept the principle of Chapter XIV of the Bill that distraint shall be permitted on application to a Civil Court and through the agency of an officer thereby deputed.'

"Now this is the identical scheme of the Bill which has been maintained throughout and has only been modified by the provision enabling the Courts to issue *interim* injunctions and by that which enables the Lieutenant-Governor to apply the old procedure in certain special cases. We have therefore strictly carried out what we declared to the Secretary of State was our intention, and the hon'ble member's charge against us is quite baseless.

"Then he says there is no complaint or evidence of the law having been abused in Bengal. Mr. Dutt, the Collector of Backergunge, says :—

'I am very strongly of opinion that "if distraint is to be maintained at all, the process can no longer be left to the unsupervised action of the zamindárs' servants." Private distraint is so constantly and almost invariably abused, and in this district has so frequently been the occasion of breach of the peace, that it cannot be allowed to continue in the Statute book. When the right is exercised, the chances are, nine to one, that it is exercised not with the legitimate object of realizing rent, but with the object of harassing the raiyat to compel him to comply with some other demand with which he is not bound legally to comply.

'I am not singular in my opinion in this respect. Babú Dina Bandhu Sen, who as pleader

has acted oftener for zamindars than for raiyats, and who has gained a thorough and practical experience of the working of the law from many years' observation, states :—"In nearly all the cases of distraint which have come to my notice as a pleader in this district, I have observed that the law has been abused." This is the opinion of most persons that I have consulted, but Mr. Reily is of a different opinion, and maintains that the right of private distraint helps zamindars in getting their rents expeditiously, and should be retained.

'Private distraint should, in my opinion, be abolished altogether. The remarks made above apply with only somewhat less force to distraints under order of Courts. Distraints are not applied for to realize rents, but to harass raiyats, and make them comply with other demands with which the raiyat is not bound to comply. This was the opinion of most of the gentlemen who attended a meeting which I convened in Burrisal to discuss the Rent Bill; and all the gentlemen, except a few zamindars, agreed that there should be a special provision in the law that an application for distraint should not be complied with by Courts unless satisfied *prima facie* that there is no other means of realizing rent. My opinion is the same. Private distraint should be abolished altogether; and if the remedy of distraint under orders of the Court be retained, there should be a special proviso that no order to distraint shall be passed unless the Court is satisfied *prima facie* that there is no other measure for realizing rent.'

I have received abundant and almost unanimous testimony on this point. The First Munsif of Burrisal says that 95 per cent. of the applications for distraint made to him within the last 11 years of his service were made solely to compel raiyats to submit to unreasonable demands. He says, "two of the biggest zamindars in the district, Bábú Kali Kissen Tagore and Bábú Satyananda Ghosal, who are known to be very good landlords, have scarcely any occasion to avail themselves of the law of distraint." It is the oppressive zamindars only who avail themselves of the law to harass raiyats. The Munsif, therefore, recommends the entire abolition of the law of distraint, which, he says, will not create any real difficulty in the realization of rent. He believes that in Benar much greater oppression is committed by distraint through Court than by private distraint, because landlords, when bent on oppression, try to give their proceedings a semblance of legality.

It was resolved at the Divisional Conference at Dacca to let the provisions of the present Bill stand as they are.

other measure for realizing rent.'

"Then the Subordinate Judge of Burdwan says :—

'The chapter on distraint is an improvement on the present law. I am not for abolishing distraint altogether. The supervision of the Court would be a perfect safeguard against the abuse of the power, and if timely application be made there would be no fear of the process being deprived of its practical utility.'

"The Subordinate Judge of Backergunge also says :—

'In my humble opinion the power of distraint should be at once taken away from the landlords, for, as far as my experience goes, I have never seen any case of distraint in which the power was not abused by the landlord. The good landlords never distraint the crops of their tenants in any district. Only oppressive landlords distraint crops of such of their tenants who do not come to terms with them regarding the rate of rent. In these cases the distrainted crop is partly spoilt and is partly stolen by the servants of the landlords, and in this way the raiyat suffers great damages. Under these circumstances, I beg most humbly to propose that it would be better for the good of the community to take away the power of distraint from the landlords. For the purpose of realizing safely the rents due from the raiyats, provisions may be made for attaching the standing crop before judgment, after instituting a suit, if the landlord can satisfy the Court that if the crop be not so attached it would be difficult for him to realize the rent due from the raiyat.'

"I could quote also equally strong evidence given by the Munsifs of Burrisal, Bagirhat and Serajgunge, who all agree in saying that the process is resorted to very rarely with the object of realizing legitimate arrears, but very generally for the purpose of crushing refractory raiyats. It can scarcely be said therefore that oppression has not been proved when we have such strong evidence from a number of judicial officers who have had cases of distraint brought before them. It is on such testimony as this that it was determined that the old law of distraint should not be maintained. The Bebar Committee proposed in 1878 to abolish it; the Rent Law Commission was also in favour of its abolition. This was not agreed to, but it was proposed to keep it in a modified form. We have given a special power to the Local Government in certain parts of the country where the want of this process presses heavily on landholders to relax the law and allow the continuance of the old process, subject in every case to notice being given to the Court. Although I cannot gainsay what the Hon'ble Mr. Evans has said as to the terrible expense of the process to the raiyat, I can scarcely imagine that it will be a greater danger to the raiyat or worse than that from which he now suffers."

The Hon'ble BÁBÚ PZÁRI MOHAN MUKERJI said :—"The hon'ble mem-

her in charge of the Bill referred to the opinions of the District Officer of Backergunge and the Subordinate Judge of Burdwan in respect of the abuse of the law, but they don't speak from their own experience; they considered the question theoretically and thought that the law was liable to abuse. It is only the Subordinate Judge of Backergunge who spoke of his experience; and what weight should be attached to this opinion I leave the Council to determine, knowing, as we do, that in no district have the raiyats got more power in their hands than in Backergunge; and in no place therefore are abuses less likely to occur."

The amendment was put and negatived.

The Hon'ble BĀBŪ PEĀRĪ MOHAN MUKERJĪ moved that clause (b) of section 158 be omitted. He said:—"This clause gives a final jurisdiction in the trial of suits the value of which does not exceed Rs. 50 to special officers appointed by the Local Government. This, I submit, is a retrograde move. It takes away the constitutional right of appeal, and gives in its place a provision the proper working of which will depend upon the care with which the Local Government will select the officers. It is another instance of the power which the Bill gives to the executive authorities to interfere with the judicial administration of the country. The value of a suit might not exceed Rs. 50, but that is no index of its importance to the parties concerned. It might be a typical case, the result of which would influence the settlement of a dispute between the whole body of the raiyats of a village with their landlord. It might be a case the decision in which regarding the question of instalments by which rents are payable would settle a long-standing dispute with the raiyats of a village. In all such cases the result of the suit is very important both to the landholder and to the raiyat. I should be sorry to see a constitutional right taken away and a provision given in its place the efficacy of which will depend upon a proper exercise of the powers of the executive authorities."

The Hon'ble MR. EVANS said:—"I object to the amendment. No doubt an appeal is taken away in certain cases, where the suit does not exceed Rs. 50, but this is not so in suits in which a question of title to land or of right to enhance or vary the rent of a tenant or of the amount of rent annually payable by a tenant is in dispute. The net result is that an appeal is only taken away in that class of cases where the question really is merely, taking it that the rent is known, whether the rent has been paid or not. Not only do I object to the amendment, but I am surprised to find it come from that quarter. I should have thought zamīndārs would not wish to be harassed by delays in the execution of decrees arising from vexatious appeals."

The Hon'ble BĀBŪ PEĀRĪ MOHAN MUKERJĪ said:—"It is not merely the fact of payment or non-payment which is involved in such cases. Besides the cases mentioned in the proviso, there may be other cases of importance to the zamīndār; for instance, cases which may influence the decision of many other suits involving questions of instalment of rent or questions of custom."

The amendment was put and negatived.

The Hon'ble BĀBŪ PEĀRĪ MOHAN MUKERJĪ moved that section 156 be omitted. He said:—"The provisions contained in this section are opposed to the judge-made law on the subject. It has been held by the Hon'ble Judges of the High Court that when a tenant is ejected by order of Court the crops on the land go with the land to the landholder. But this section provides elaborate rules for the purpose of giving the raiyat a right to enter upon the land and to rear and reap the crops after he has been ejected. When a decree for ejectment severs all connection between the raiyat and his landlord, I do not see what considerations can justify such a provision. The Bill shows no consideration for the crops of occupancy-raiyats which would go to the purchaser by sale of their holdings. Why should non-occupancy-raiyats be deemed entitled to greater consideration in this respect, specially when they may protect themselves from ejectment by payment of the amount due by them?"

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY said:—"I would point out that the obvious difference between sale and ejectment is this; when a raiyat is sold up he gets the money which includes the value of the crop on the ground. Why when he is ejected should he lose it? In regard to this point the Rent Commission said:—

'There are in the existing law no provisions as to the *away-going crop*; and, as a natural consequence, when a tenant is ejected while the crop is on the ground, the right to this crop is a constant source of dispute and litigation. We have enacted that when a raiyat is ejected in execution of a decree—and this we have just shown is the only way in which he can be ejected—and there are upon the land at the time of the ejectment growing crops or other ungathered products of the earth, which but for the ejectment such raiyat would have been entitled to reap or gather, such raiyat shall, notwithstanding such ejectment, be entitled to reap or gather such crops or products, and may use the land for the purpose of tending, reaping, gathering and removing the same; and in the event of his doing so, he shall be liable to pay a reasonable sum for the use and occupation of the land for these purposes (section 80). We have, however, thought it reasonable to allow the landlord an option of taking such crops or products at a reasonable valuation, if he gives notice of his intention to do so at the time when he applies for execution. If the landlord and tenant cannot agree as to the value of the crops or products, the Court may, upon the application of either of them, determine such value, and the order so determining such value shall have the force of a decree.'

"The principle seems a very sound one that the landlord should not by choosing his time for ejectment not only ruin his raiyat but should himself benefit by the crop in the ground which the raiyat has sown and which he is entitled to reap."

The amendment was put and negatived.

The Hon'ble MR. HUNTER moved, on behalf of the Hon'ble Mr. Amír Ali, that section 156, clause (c), be omitted. He said:—"The question has been fully discussed by the Select Committee."

The amendment was put and negatived.

The Hon'ble BĀDŪ PEĀRĪ MOHAN MUKERJĪ moved that clauses (c), (e) and (f), of section 160 be omitted. He said:—"These clauses introduce material changes in the present law as to what should be deemed protected interests when a tenure is sold for its own arrears. Clause (c) gives protection not to leases given for building or manufacturing purposes at a fair rate of rent, but to all leases of land on which buildings, &c., have been erected, perhaps without the consent of the landlord, and reserving, it may be, only nominal rents; clause (e) extends the protection to judicial leases granted to non-occupancy-raiyats; and clause (f) gives protection to all leases granted by the outgoing tenant if the rents reserved on them were fair and equitable at the time the leases were granted. The result of these provisions would be to give a tenure-holder the power of creating leases in favour of his relatives and dependents which would absorb the whole profits of the tenure, and then to put the tenure up to sale for the purpose of entrapping unwary purchasers. These clauses would encourage fraud and collusion and give rise to much litigation."

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY said:—"I wish to meet the hon'ble member on one point on which he spoke, but I would first point out that the protection to subordinate interests against which the hon'ble member protests is precisely the protection given in case of sales for arrears of Government revenue. I admit, however, that in regard to clause (c), though the danger of injury is such as may safely be overlooked in regard to its bearing on Government revenue, yet the danger of seriously lessening the rent of the superior holder by protecting absolutely all interests created under clause (c), is not imaginary, and we ought if possible to safeguard the landlord against it. It can be met by an adaptation of section 13 of Bengal Act VII of 1868, and I propose therefore to insert a clause to that effect. It will be precisely the same as the section of the Bengal Act in a modified form so as to make it run with this chapter. It

will come in after section 167 of the Bill. To this extent I am prepared to meet the hon'ble member's objection, but no further."

The Hon'ble BĀBŪ PEĀRI MOHAN MUKERJI expressed his willingness to accept the proposed section as far as it went, and this was then agreed to.

The Hon'ble BĀBŪ PEĀRI MOHAN MUKERJI's amendment was put and negatived.

The Council adjourned to Wednesday, the 11th March, 1885.

SIMLA;
The 4th May 1885. }

D. FITZPATRICK,
*Secretary to the Government of India,
Legislative Department.*

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

ABSTRACT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR
GENERAL OF INDIA, ASSEMBLED FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING
LAWS AND REGULATIONS UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF
THE ACT OF PARLIAMENT 24 & 25 VIC., CAP. 67.

The Council met at Government House on Wednesday, the 11th March, 1885.

PRESENT:

His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General of India, K.P., G.C.B.,
G.C.M.G., G.M.S.I., G.M.I.E., P.C., *presiding*.
His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, K.C.S.I., C.I.E.
His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, G.C.B., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble J. Gibbs, C.S.I., C.I.E.
Lieutenant-General the Hon'ble T. F. Wilson, C.B., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble C. P. Ilbert, C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Sir S. C. Bayley, K.C.S.I., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble T. C. Hope, C.S.I., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Sir A. Colvin, K.C.M.G., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble T. M. Gibbon, C.I.E.
The Hon'ble R. Miller.
The Hon'ble Amir Ali.
The Hon'ble W. W. Hunter, LL.D., C.S.I., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble H. J. Reynolds.
The Hon'ble Rao Saheb Vishvanath Narayan Mandlik, C.S.I.
The Hon'ble Peári Mohan Mukerji.
The Hon'ble H. St.A. Goodrich.
The Hon'ble G. H. P. Evans.
The Hon'ble Maharájá Luchmessur Singh, Bahádur, of Durbhunga.
The Hon'ble J. W. Quinton.

BENGAL TENANCY BILL.

The adjourned debate on the Bill was resumed this day.

The Hon'ble RÁBÚ PEÁRI MOHAN MUKERJI moved that clause (a) of sub-section (2) of section 163 be omitted. He said :—" My remarks on this clause will also apply to my motions to omit sections 164 and 168. These sections introduce changes in the present law the necessity of which has never been experienced. They provide for sales of tenures subject to registered incumbrances in the first place, and free of such incumbrances only when the proceeds of the first sale prove inadequate to satisfy the decree. The present law is that, whenever a tenure is sold for its own arrears, it is sold with power given to the purchaser to avoid incumbrances created by the outgoing tenant. It is a provision which has a wholesome effect not only in checking the progress of sub-division and sub-infeudation, but also in preserving tenures in their pristine integrity. The result of the contemplated changes will be quite the other way. They will perpetuate sub-divisions and sub-infeudations, and reduce the value of tenures at every successive sale. But in whose interest are these changes advocated? The superior proprietor will be delayed in the recovery of the amount of his decree, and the security for his rent will diminish with every sale of the tenure; the judgment-debtor will be saddled with unnecessary costs, and the sale will fetch a much less price than what it would have otherwise done; while the purchaser will have to give his bid in the dark, not knowing what incumbrances relating to the property have been registered within the last 10 or 15 years, and he will be exceptionally fortunate if he does not find in the end that he has

made an extremely bad bargain. When not one of the three interested parties is likely to benefit by the proposed modifications in the present law, I hope hon'ble members will see fit to maintain the present law in its integrity."

The Hon'ble MR. EVANS said :—"I do not think the judgment-debtor should benefit by the avoidance of his incumbrances. As I understand the matter, that is usual in sales for arrears of the Government revenue only because it is absolutely necessary for the protection of Government revenue and only so far as it is thought necessary, and there is power to Government to cancel the sale in cases of hardship. No man ought to be allowed to say that he incumbered the tenure but now wishes to sell free of incumbrances. The only admissible argument will be the protection of the superior landholder. I do not think there is any great hardship to the superior landholder in protecting as far as we have done *bona fide* incumbrances."

The Hon'ble MR. GIBBON said :—"I oppose the amendment. It is only necessary to provide means to the landlord to recover what is due on account of rent. The Bill provides that in every way possible. It provides that the tenure shall only be sold in the first instance subject to incumbrances; but if the amount of the purchase-money does not cover the amount of the decree, the tenure can be sold again free of all incumbrances. It is necessary in all other cases to protect incumbrances. Some tenures under my management consist of hundreds of acres, and the incumbrances are of very large amounts, from Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 40,000; and simply because a comparatively small sum of five or six hundred rupees may be due to the landlord as rents, to allow that the tenure should be sold free of incumbrances in order to recover such a small sum would be very hard to landed capitalists. I think it very necessary to give the protection which the Bill provides."

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY said :—"It seems very obvious that there is real necessity to protect incumbrances on tenures. The tenure-holder has a right to do what he likes with the land as long as he pays the superior landholder the rent secured upon it, and, as the Hon'ble Mr. Gibbon has pointed out, many of these incumbrances are such that in the interests of public policy they should be secured. Is it reasonable that the tenure-holder, having got a large bonus given for permission to build or to dig a tank or to erect a manufactory, should by defaulting allow the tenure to be sold up and leave the interests of these incumbrancers absolutely at the mercy of the purchaser? It is true that the tenure-holder will get a larger sum if the tenure is sold with power to avoid all incumbrances, but what does that mean? It means that having taken a bonus for permission to make the incumbrance, he again gets paid by the purchaser for permission to avoid it. He gets the value twice over by a deliberate swindle of the incumbrancer. If there is really danger to the rent of the superior holder I think it ought to be safeguarded, and with the view of giving the necessary protection I have proposed the section next in the list. But as long as that is safeguarded I cannot see that any injury will befall to any other party, and it is much in the interest of public policy not to allow the tenure-holder deliberately to swindle the incumbrancer."

The amendment was put and negatived.

The Hon'ble BĀBŪ PEĀRĪ MOHAN MUKERJĪ moved that for the word "thirty" in sub-section (4) of section 163 the word "twenty" be substituted. He said :—"The present law allows a sale to take place after 20 days from the date of the proclamation of sale. The extension of the minimum period to 30 days will simply add to the delay in the recovery of the amount of the decree. No complaint of hardship has been made on the ground of the procedure for the sale of tenures for their own arrears being different from that which obtains with regard to other sales. I therefore fail to understand why this additional source of delay should have been introduced in a Bill which was started with the distinct object of giving landholders facilities in the recovery of rent."

The Hon'ble MR. GIBBON said :—"I think we have gone quite far enough

under section 163 to change the law. The present law, as far as my experience goes, allows you first to attach the property and afterwards appoints a day for the proclamation of sale. The proclamation always gives the tenant time to protect his own interest; whereas we propose now that the attachment and proclamation shall be simultaneous, and we only give 30 days. If you reduce that period to 20 days and still maintain the new provision of the law which necessitates attachment and proclamation at the same time, we shall be doing the judgment-debtor very material injury. It is also necessary to make the intended sale as public as possible and to give all persons who may have incumbrances on the holdings, and whose incumbrances would be voided by the sale, time to protect their own interests."

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY said:—"The Hon'ble Mr. Gibbon has stated the reason which induced the Select Committee to make this alteration. I believe I am right in saying that 30 days is the term in the Civil Procedure Code, and 20 days in the present law refers to tenures and not to occupancy-rights, which are sold in 30 days."

The Hon'ble BĀBŪ PEĀRI MOHAN MUKERJI said:—"With reference to what the Hon'ble Mr. Gibbon has said I wish to observe that it is not necessary under the present procedure that there should be a process of attachment before proclamation is made for the sale of the tenure. The tenure or holding being hypothecated for its own rent, from the nature of the case, no attachment is necessary, and therefore the additional convenience to which the hon'ble member points, far from being a convenience at all, will be so much more delay to the landlord."

The amendment was put and negatived.

The Hon'ble BĀBŪ PEĀRI MOHAN MUKERJI by leave withdrew the amendment that section 164 be omitted.

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY moved that to section 167 the following sub-section be added:—

"(4) When a tenure or holding is sold in execution of a decree for arrears due in respect thereof, and there is on the tenure or holding a protected interest of the kind specified in section 160 (c), the purchaser may, if he has power under this chapter to avoid all incumbrances, sue to enhance the rent of the land which is the subject of the protected interest. On proof that the land is held at a rent which was not at the time the lease was granted a fair rent, the Court may enhance the rent to such amount as appears to be fair and equitable."

"This sub-section shall not apply to land which has been held for a term exceeding twelve years at a fixed rent equal to the rent of good arable land."

He said:—"This is the sub-section which I propose to insert to meet the wishes of my hon'ble friend BĀBŪ PEĀRI MOHAN MUKERJI. It is a re-production of section 13 of Act VII of 1868 (B.C.), and its effect is that if the incumbrance is of such a nature as to diminish the value of the security for rent, the purchaser can enhance the rent to a fair standard."

The Hon'ble BĀBŪ PEĀRI MOHAN MUKERJI said:—"I think the proposed amendment will supply a defect in section 160, and I therefore support the motion."

The amendment was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble BĀBŪ PEĀRI MOHAN MUKERJI by leave withdrew the amendment that section 168 be omitted.

The Hon'ble MR. GIBBON moved that section 174 be omitted. He said:—"This, I think I am right in saying, is a perfectly new provision of law, and will have an effect which was not intended. It is intended to give the judgment-debtor 30 days' grace after the property is sold; it will allow him, after the property is sold, to pay the amount of the decree plus 5 per cent. of the purchase-

money, and thus recover his holding. The practical effect will be to encourage a tenant whose property is put up for sale to put off the day of payment. It will prevent *bond fide* agriculturists and tenants from coming forward to purchase. In the first place, they cannot afford the waste of time; it necessitates his going to the Court to purchase, to go fifteen days afterwards to purchase, and again 30 days after to see whether the sale has been confirmed or the money has been paid by the tenant, and again to recover his money from the Court. The very uncertainty will deter people from paying proper value, and it will deter agriculturists from purchasing. It will encourage land-jobbing in its worst shape by forcing the purchase of all holdings into the hands of the hangers-on about the Courts, men who will not purchase them with any intention of retaining them, but purchase them because they see them going for little or nothing and may make a profit by their re-sale, or at any rate secure their 5 per cent. on the purchase or on their bid. There is another reason for not allowing this provision to become law. The law allows a judgment-debtor to set aside a sale of his property on account of any irregularity in the sale, and I would ask hon'ble members to try to realise the effect this provision will have on the minds of the Courts when the judgment-debtor goes forward to set aside a sale on the ground of irregularity. The Court would at once refuse his application on the ground that he should have paid up the amount of the decree instead of applying under section 311 of the Civil Procedure Code. It will retard the recovery of rents, injure the landlord, and throw property into the hands of speculators and land-jobbers. It is bad policy."

The Hon'ble MR. EVANS said:—"I am exceedingly sorry to differ from my hon'ble friend in regard to a practical matter of this kind in which no doubt he has had considerable experience, and his judgment is therefore entitled to great weight. But it appears to me that this is a very important provision of the Bill. The tenacity with which proprietors and raiyats in this country cling to their land is remarkable. They are improvident and get into arrear; but when they find they are to be dispossessed, they struggle to protect their interests, and they commit wholesale perjury in order to do so, and they proceed by a regular system of obstructing the execution of the decree. When the sale has once been made, it is a matter of common form for them to lodge a petition under section 311, alleging every conceivable irregularity; they deny receipt of notice of sale, they say the process peons were suborned, and they produce a number of villagers to say that they never saw the peon, and they allege every other possible irregularity. Suppose the debtor succeeds in proving irregularities, he has further to prove that they caused substantial loss. He then goes in with a number of friends and neighbours to exaggerate the value of the holding, and swears that it was sold for less than it ought to have been sold for, and that the decrease in price was due to these irregularities; and if the Judge of the first Court decides against him, he, as a rule, appeals up to the High Court; and the Courts very often, when they can, try to help the man, but very often they are unable to do so. Execution proceedings are among the most tedious and expensive proceedings we have, and all Judges have lamented this particular cause of litigation. For the purpose of stopping this class of litigation, which is of an exceedingly bad character and is more full of false evidence than any other class of litigation, I think this provision is a very good one. It is intended to check these evils and give relief to the people. It will also afford great relief to execution-creditors. When a man finds that his land is lost, he has got the chance of recovering it by paying 5 per cent. in excess of the purchase-money, and if he does so the whole thing is over; the decree-holder has got his money without a long litigation, and the purchaser is not damaged, because he too gets back his money, with 5 per cent. in addition. I have long thought that some measure of this kind introduced into the Civil Procedure Code might have a good effect. This was thought a good opportunity for trying the experiment, and a number of Judges to whom I have spoken think it will be a valuable provision and will work well. The getting rid of the class of cases I have described will be of immense good. The only person in any way prejudicially affected is the purchaser, but we have secured his interest by giving back his money with 5 per cent.

by way of interest. The great delay and uncertainty at present existing in these cases will be greatly diminished. The two other persons mainly concerned are the judgment-creditor and the judgment-debtor, and they will both, I think, be benefited. The intending purchasers will not as a rule be discouraged from bidding, for there will be less chance of long litigation, which at present makes property at execution-sales fetch low prices, and discourages *bond fide* investors, and encourages speculators in litigation. I, therefore, strongly object to the amendment, and ask the Council to retain this provision in the Bill as being possibly a solution which, if I am right, will be really useful."

The Hon'ble BĀBŪ PEĀRĪ MOHAN MUKERJĪ said:—"I also oppose the motion. I fail to appreciate the force of the arguments advanced by the hon'ble mover in support of it. A purchaser of a tenure or holding at an auction-sale always makes the purchase subject to the risk of the sale being set aside on the grounds mentioned in section 311 of the Code of Civil Procedure. The section in question will not add to that risk. There is no reason, therefore, why the sale should fetch a less price than it would have otherwise done. The costs incurred in trials regarding the validity of sales are sometimes enormous, and it usually takes years before the question is finally decided. This new provision will remove one of the most fruitful sources of litigation, and, while it will give back his property to the judgment-debtor without putting him to harassment and expense, it will give the purchaser a reasonable profit by the transaction, and save him from the costs and suspense attendant on a protracted litigation. I hope hon'ble members will recognise in this new section a great improvement on the present law on the subject."

The Hon'ble RAO SAHEB VISHVANATH NARAYAN MANDLIK opposed the amendment. He said:—"I think the section will introduce, in addition to other troubles, the speculative element against which all the Civil Courts have been struggling. Although it is in one sense an attempt to relieve tenure-holders and occupancy-*rai*yats by opening a door to repentance, I think in all these matters the quickest step is the wisest step for all parties concerned. A man who has allowed so many opportunities to escape him is not the man for whom we ought to plead. The purchaser is no doubt sufficiently recouped by getting back his money with interest; but the real difficulty is the opportunity given for speculation, and I think that can do no good."

The Hon'ble MR. AMĪR ALĪ said:—"I also oppose the amendment. The reasons in favour of this provision have been fully given by my hon'ble friend Mr. Evans, and it is unnecessary for me to detain the Council by going over the same ground. Any one who knows the practical difficulties arising under section 311 of the Civil Procedure Code will appreciate the boon of such a provision in this Bill. From my own experience I can say that the majority of purchasers will be glad to recover their money with a substantial interest instead of being engaged in harassing litigation to support the purchase."

The Hon'ble MR. GIBBON said:—"This provision is not a substitute for section 311 of the Civil Procedure Code, but an addition to it. You maintain all the drawbacks of the present law and give the judgment-debtor another excuse for not paying up on the due date. The practice is very different in regard to estates taken under management by Government to save the old proprietors. Estates are not first sold up and taken into management afterwards, but the Collector, acting under authority, realises the difficulty of the debtor and takes charge of the estate beforehand. The Government does not proceed by putting up the estate to sale and inducing persons to buy on speculation. This provision would have the effect of depreciating the value of the property by deterring people who would otherwise be purchasers from spending their time to make purchases which will not be confirmed. The present law declares that a purchaser under a decree should pay the amount within 15 days; he must go one day to make the purchase, he must go 15 days afterwards to pay the purchase-money, and he must go again to see if the sale has

been confirmed. Any would-be agricultural purchaser would be deterred from making a purchase under such circumstances."

The amendment was put and negatived.

The Hon'ble BĀBŪ PEĀRĪ MOHĀN MUKERJĪ moved that clause (d) of sub-section (1), sub-section (2), and clauses (c), (e), (g) and (h) of sub-section (3), of section 178 be omitted. He said:—"In imposing various restrictions on the freedom of contract in transactions between landlord and tenant the legislature has proceeded on the hypothesis that the vast majority of raiyats form a body of men who are incapable of understanding and taking care of their own rights and privileges. Nothing could be more erroneous. It is seen from the preamble of Regulation IV of 1794 that, although the legislature of 1793 enjoined the exchange of written engagements between landlord and tenant, the raiyats deliberately refused to enter into written engagements in view of protecting their own interests. I shall read to the Council what the Rent Commission said on the subject in their report:—

"The legislature of 1793 directed its efforts to the introduction of written engagement between landlord and tenant, and the Regulations of that time contain more than one homily upon the advantages that would surely accrue to both parties from the use of such written engagements; but neither party was in the least persuaded or converted, and finally a law was rescinded in which neither party saw sufficient benefit to himself to induce him to enforce it against the other. The little use made of the provisions of the existing law, which enable the raiyat to sue for a patta or the landlord for a kabūliyat, goes far to show that the race of landlords and tenants in Bengal has not much altered its mind on this point since the time of the Permanent Settlement. The experience of the registration offices indicates that writing is commonly used in the creation of new tenancies; and we think it more advisable to leave the adoption of writing to its natural growth, which will no doubt be encouraged by the spread of education amongst the cultivating classes, than to force upon the people a law fashioned according to Western rather than Eastern ideas."

"When the raiyats were so very careful of their rights in 1793, hon'ble members might safely presume that they are much more so at present, now that their condition has immensely improved, and there has been a vast progress in the spread of education. Considering what a vast area of land still remains to be cultivated, I confidently submit that no country in the world would derive more benefit than Bengal from perfect freedom of contract in land. In the interests of agriculture, and of the education which Government is so desirous of giving to the people in habits of self-government, it is essential that perfect freedom should be accorded in this matter. Laws which offer such violence to the natural rules of supply and demand can never be successful in their operation, and it is more than doubtful how far these restrictions to contract would prevent parties from having recourse to shifts and devices for the purpose of evading the law. In reference to this question I shall ask the Council to bear in mind that the original proposal of the Government of India which received the sanction of the Secretary of State was to restrict freedom of contract so far only as it might bar the accrual of the right of occupancy. I therefore move that the clauses of this section which limit freedom of contract beyond questions affecting the accrual of the right of occupancy be expunged from the Bill."

The Hon'ble MR. EVANS said:—"I expected to hear some statement regarding the particular objections to the particular sub-sections mentioned in the amendment. The only one to which I attach real importance is that in which the hon'ble member agreed with us, namely, that a raiyat should not be allowed to contract himself out of the occupancy-right; the others stand each one on their own merits as regards their necessity, and I do not propose to offer any remarks upon them, except two. As regards sub-section (3), clause (g), which is mentioned in the amendment, I will support the motion; but the reason why I do so is that I altogether object to section 40; but inasmuch as that matter has been passed by the Council I won't state my objections at length. I do not think it safe or desirable to entrust to a Sub-divisional Officer or a Collector the question of adjudicating on the expediency of commuting rents in *bhaoli* tenures. There are strong reasons why the tenure has prevailed, and I believe

in the wisdom of retaining it. I do not think such an officer who may be a stranger to the district is a good judge as to whether a *bhaoli* tenure should be swept away. Therefore, as I object to section 40, I of course object to this sub-section, which makes inalienable the right of the landlord to make an application to see how much discretion the Revenue-officer has. If he has good discretion, he will refuse the application; if he is an officer with advanced opinions, who wishes to sweep away all the *bhaoli* tenures of the country, he will grant the application; therefore, as far as that is concerned, I will support the amendment. There is one other matter to which I wish to refer, and that is clause (e), under which all raiyats are to have an inalienable right to sub-let subject to the provisions of this Act. With regard to the occupancy-raiyat, the question has been discussed, and the arguments are strong in favour of allowing it to a certain extent. We have placed large restrictions, and I think properly so. But this clause goes further; it provides that every raiyat is to have an inalienable right to sub-let. If a raiyat is let in on a written lease, he has to go out at the end of the term, and he cannot give a sub-lease beyond his own term. But with regard to the non-occupancy-raiyat, who has no written contract, he will have, as the section stands, a right to sub-let at fair and equitable rates, subject to the proviso in section 46; he may get a judicial lease at the end of five years, and a good deal of confusion will be caused. If the clause is not struck out, I think the word 'occupancy' should be inserted before the word 'raiya'."

The Hon'ble RAO SAHEB VISHVANATH NARAYAN MANDLIK said:—"I support the amendment, and I am sure it does not go far enough. I think there ought to be a distinction between occupancy and non-occupancy-raiyats, and there ought to be no general provision against raiyats and superior landlords as far as possible adjusting their mutual differences without resort to the machinery of the Courts."

The Hon'ble MR. REYNOLDS said:—"I am willing to accept the suggestion which has been made by the Hon'ble Mr. Evans as to clause (e), but I cannot support the motion of the Hon'ble Peari Mohan Mukerji."

The Hon'ble MR. GIBBON said:—"I oppose the amendment. The hon'ble member has nowhere said that these contracts are to be what the contract law requires,—contracts to be made for lawful consideration,—and only such contracts are valid. If this amendment is carried, the effect will be that the occupancy-raiyat, who is under no necessity to enter into a contract under the Bill, whose position is already assured, if he is induced to enter into any contract, will be induced to write away rights already accrued to him. With reference to the remarks which fell from the Hon'ble Mr. Evans, I would not object to a permissive section being entered in the Bill to allow contracts for lawful consideration. Take as an example, with reference to the commutation of rents in kind, if it were to be declared that the tenant may enter into a contract with his landlord not to sub-let in consideration of the landlord allowing him to deliver only one-third of the produce in the future in place of the one-half he has been in the habit of delivering, I would not object to such a clause being inserted; but if the sole object is to permit the tenant to contract himself out of rights already acquired under the Bill, I object; but I do not think at this stage of the Bill such a proposal would be adopted. With reference to the question of sub-letting where a raiyat has been let in on an initial lease, the tenant might be allowed to contract himself out of his right to sub-let. But with reference to occupancy-raiyats, with whom it is not necessary to enter into any agreement, the only result would be the avoidance of the accrual of all rights."

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY said:—"I am sorry I cannot accept the amendment. The hon'ble member bases his motion, first of all, on the ability of the raiyat to look after his own interests. I am unwilling to detain the Council on this subject, but I would remind hon'ble members of the contracts which were read out two years ago by my hon'ble friend Mr. Ilbert and myself, and which were specimens of 1,000 or 1,200 of the same kind. I can only say, with regard

to what fell from the hon'ble member as to the inability of the legislation of 1793 to force raiyats to contract with their landlords, that recent experience has shewn us that modern landlords have at all events been far more successful. I need not enquire into the reason, but it is the fact that landlords can get raiyats to give the extraordinary contracts to which I have alluded, and I do not suppose that anybody who has seen those contracts will doubt that they were given without the exercise of the least discretion on the part of the raiyats who gave them. The hon'ble gentleman objects to legislation framed according to Western rather than Eastern ideas; but the contracts to which I refer are unfortunately drawn up on Western models, but under Eastern conditions, that is to say, they purport to be bargains between equals, but are really extorted under pressure of poverty, or ignorance, and it is precisely for that reason we do not desire to maintain the Western doctrine of their inviolability. The old shape of the patta did not put any restrictions on the customary rights of the raiyat. These new forms of lease taken from Western models are calculated to break down existing occupancy-rights, to prevent the accrual of occupancy-rights, to make the raiyat pay the whole of the land cesses while the law says he has only to pay half, to make him give up his right to appeal for protection to the Courts. It is because we have seen numbers of contracts with such provisions that I say that without these safeguards, which, as I shall show presently, were in the view of the Government of India when they wrote to the Secretary of State, it would be absolutely fallacious to give them the rights which we are giving them. The hon'ble gentleman has said that in our despatch to the Secretary of State freedom of contract was only to be restricted in regard to the accrual of occupancy-rights. But there is nothing in that despatch to show that what we referred to was restricted to the time antecedent to the accrual of occupancy-rights. The Government of India said:—

'Nor need we dwell on section 20 of the Bill, which provides that no contract, whether entered into before or after the commencement of the enactment, shall in any case debar a raiyat from acquiring a right of occupancy in raiyati lands used for agricultural purposes. Such is the power of the zamindars, so numerous and effective are the means possessed by most of them for inducing the raiyats to accept agreements which, if history, custom, and expediency be regarded, are wrongful and contrary to good policy, that to uphold contracts in contravention of the main purpose of the Bill would be, in our belief, to condemn it to defeat and failure. It is absolutely necessary that such contracts should be disallowed: and in this conclusion we have the support, not only of the Bengal Government, but also of the almost unanimous opinions of the Bengal officers.'

"This, the hon'ble member said, referred only to the accrual of occupancy-rights, but your sections go beyond it. In terms this is quite true. But after all what is the occupancy-right? The occupancy-right is made up of a bundle of incidents; and therefore to say that we restrict your contracting yourself out of your occupancy-right, but you may contract yourself out of any or all of the incidents which go to make up that right, means nothing. With regard to what fell from my hon'ble friend Mr. Reynolds, the point is this: where the two parties in the case of a *bhaoli* holding are not both of them willing to continue the arrangement, is it desirable to maintain their relations in such a shape? Whether the proposal for a change of the system under which rent is paid comes from the raiyat or the zamindar, it is very desirable that somebody should settle how it should be done and on what terms, and we put in the Revenue-officer as the person most able to judge as to the interests of both parties. If we leave section 40 in the law, that is, that either the landlord or the raiyat has the right to go into Court and ask for a commutation of rent, the provision in this section of the Bill is, I think, a necessary one. It is impossible that any contract should prevent a raiyat or a landlord from going into Court, and it would be very wrong to allow it to have that effect. In regard to the other point as to sub-letting, I am quite willing to accept my hon'ble friend Mr. Evans' proposal; and therefore I move that in sub-section (e) the word 'occupancy' be inserted before the word 'raiya'."

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT said:—"I feel some doubt about the proper way of dealing with this amendment. The scope of the Hon'ble Peari Mohan Mukerji's speech is wider than the motion in support of which the speech was

delivered; for he does not move the omission of the whole section, and I understand him to admit that there are certain parts of it to the retention of which he would not raise any objection. There is not any amendment on the notice-paper which raises the broad question whether there are or are not certain classes of agreements between zamindars and raiyats to which the ordinary law of contract ought not to apply. And I presume that the reason why this question is not raised is because it is almost universally admitted that there are such classes of agreements. We all know the theory on which the ordinary law of contract is based. It presupposes equality between the parties to the contract, full knowledge and appreciation by each party of the nature of the rights to which he is entitled, and a deliberate intention on either side to modify those rights in a particular manner. Gaius and Titius, or Ram Das and Ram Bux, meet in the market-place and strike a bargain, and when they have done so the Courts hold them to their bargain. But the circumstances which lead up to the execution of a kabúliyat by an occupancy-raiyat are of a very different character. The raiyat's ordinary rights, the rights with which a kabúliyat purports to deal, are not based on contract, and the whole notion of their being capable of regulation by contract is unfamiliar to him. His rights are based on occupation and regulated by custom. He did not come in under a lease by which the landlord agreed to let and the tenant agreed to take a specified piece of land, for a specified term, under specified conditions; and if any instrument purporting to be such a lease can be produced against him, it is usually a fiction. He simply occupies the land, as his forefathers have occupied it before him, subject to the observance of certain conditions, the general character of which is approximately known and understood, though they have never been reduced to a definite written form. There is a nebulous border-land between his rights and those of the zamindar which has, from time immemorial, been the subject of dispute between them, and with respect to which the contest is under ordinary circumstances not unequally waged between persistent worry on the one side and passive resistance on the other. But there are certain central rights which we know very well that the raiyat would not give up except under the pressure of absolute necessity—rights which are essential to his status; and if we found that he has attached his signature or mark to a kabúliyat purporting to give away these rights, we may feel morally certain that the signature has been obtained under circumstances which are described in the Indian Contract Act as constituting undue influence. In fact, whilst the elements of an ordinary legal contract are offered on the one hand and acceptance on the other, the characteristic elements of the transaction which results in the execution of such kabúliyats as these are pressure on the one side and submission on the other. It is the execution of instruments of this nature that we wish to prevent. We desire to prevent the occupancy-raiyat from contracting or appearing to contract himself out of rights which are essential to his status. We have no desire to make this section more stringent or more comprehensive than the nature of the case requires, and if it can be shown that any of its provisions can be relaxed or modified without any serious risk of allowing the main objects of our legislation to be defeated, I should be most ready to accept the modification."

The Hon'ble BĀBŪ PEĀRĪ MOHAN MUKERJĪ said:—"Two statements have been made by the hon'ble member in charge of the Bill with regard to which I should like to say something. The proposal which was made by the Government of India to the Secretary of State was embodied in this way—'to declare that no contract shall debar a raiyat from acquiring the right of occupancy in raiyati land'. And the Secretary of State in giving his sanction, confined himself to the suggestion so embodied in that paragraph, because he said:—'I proceed to communicate to you my opinion on the proposals summarised under 13 heads in the 108th paragraph of your letter.' So that there can be no mistake as to what the proposal was to which the Secretary of State gave his sanction. The hon'ble member has advanced the argument that when the Secretary of State gave his sanction to the restriction of the right of contract barring the accrual of rights of occupancy, that sanction extended to the restriction of all contracts relating to every incident which affects the right of occupancy. I submit that that argument should be taken for what it is worth. As regards

the other statement made by the hon'ble member that the kabúliyat in the case of the Mymensingh and Pubna raiyats show that the raiyats are too ignorant and helpless to secure their own rights, I submit that unless hon'ble members have all the correspondence, official and demi-official, relating to those kabúliyats placed before them, the Council is not in a position to judge whether very unjust influence or any coercion was used by the landlords for the purpose of getting those kabúliyats. I know that the public Press distinctly stated at the time that members of the service had used their influence to induce the raiyats to repudiate their kabúliyats, that it was not their voluntary act, and that statement has not up to this time ever been contradicted."

The amendment was put and negatived.

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY then moved that for the words "a raiyat" in clause (e), sub-section (3) of section 178, the words "an occupancy-raiyat" be substituted.

The amendment was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble Mr. HUNTER moved that in section 178, after clause (i) of the proviso, the following clause be inserted, namely :—

"When a landlord has reclaimed waste land by his own servants or hired labourers, and subsequently lets the same or a part thereof to a raiyat, nothing in this Act shall affect the terms of any contract whereby a raiyat is prevented from acquiring an occupancy-right in the land or part during a period of thirty years from the date on which the land or part is first let to a raiyat";

and that the numbering of clause (ii) of the same proviso be altered accordingly.

He said :—" My Lord, I move this amendment to remedy what I believe to be a serious defect in the Bill. The main provisions of section 178, which prevent the tenant's statutory rights from being defeated by special contracts, have my cordial support. But the section very properly accords a particular treatment to the reclamation of waste lands. It enables the landlords to bar the exercise of occupancy-rights during the currency of a reclamation lease—a lease which may run for an indefinite period, and which would probably run for twenty or thirty years. The Bill thus makes provision for the reclamation of waste lands by means of tenants holding under long leases. But it omits to make provision for the reclamation of waste lands by the landlord himself, working with his own servants, or with hired labour. This omission is probably due to the circumstance that the latter class of reclamation has hitherto not been common. But cases of such reclamations have come to my notice, and I am told that their infrequency is due in part to the discouragements under which they are placed even by the present law. In the only case in which, so far as I know, extensive reclamation has been effected by the steam-plough in Lower Bengal, the landholder writes to me that the present law renders such reclamation disadvantageous to the reclaiming landlord; while under the new law no landholder would think of undertaking such reclamation, unless protected by some accidental local tenure like the *útbandi*. Yet there are several classes of reclamation which cannot be carried out by cultivators, but must be conducted by the landlord, or by a combination of neighbouring landlords, if they are to be effected at all. The Council is, I think, agreed that it is the interest alike of the cultivators and of the State that such reclamations of waste land should be undertaken. To add to the cultivated area is the most direct and the most permanent remedy for the great evil in certain parts of Bengal—over-population. But such reclamations will certainly not be undertaken by landholders if the Bill is allowed to stand as at present. My amendment only proposes to place the landholder who reclaims land at his own charges by hired labour, in as good a position as the landholder who reclaims by means of tenants on long leases. In so doing I desire to say that the amendment has been carefully framed with the intention to cover only *bond fide* reclamation of waste land. I hope that the representatives of both the landlords and the cultivators will see their way to accept an amendment, which is submitted to the Council in the interests of both."

The Hon'ble BĀBŪ PEĀRI MOHAN MUKERJI said :—" I think that in the interest of both landlord and tenant I am bound to support this amendment. It is necessary in the interests of the extension of cultivation that a provision to this effect should be made."

The Hon'ble MR. REYNOLDS said :—" I look with considerable misgiving on this amendment, not so much with regard to its use as to its possible abuse. I am averse to any provision which contemplates restrictions on the accrual of the right of occupancy. The Bill does not, it appears to me, place the reclaiming landlord in so unfavourable a position as the hon'ble mover of the amendment has represented. As long as he keeps the land after reclamation in his own possession and cultivates it by his own servants or by hired labour the profits will be all his own, and when he lets it to a raiyat he can let it on any terms he thinks fit. The landlord has thus full opportunity of remunerating himself for his original outlay of capital. I may add that I feel some doubt whether the clause will have that effect of encouraging improvements which the hon'ble member expects from it. The raiyat may be debarred by the conditions of his lease from acquiring the occupancy-right for a period of 30 years. I cannot think that raiyats who take land on such conditions will make any improvements on it. I don't mean to oppose the amendment, as I sympathise with the object which the hon'ble member has in view, but I do not wish the amendment to pass without raising some note of warning as to what may be its effect."

The Hon'ble MR. AMĪR ALĪ said :—" I support the amendment for the reasons assigned by my hon'ble friend the mover."

His Honour THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR said :—" I take no exception to the principle of the amendment, but I think there is a danger in it outside that to which the hon'ble member alluded. Is it not possible that waste land may come to mean in the eyes of the zamīndār fallow land intended for raiyati cultivation which is in the possession of the raiyat but has been allowed to remain fallow for a number of years? I think the amendment should be safeguarded by the addition of some words or provision which would make it clear what waste land is, so that landlords should not trench on land which may have the appearance of waste land from not having been used for a long time but still belongs to the raiyat."

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY said :—" I very fully sympathise with the object which my hon'ble friend Mr. Hunter has in view. I myself threw out in Committee a suggestion somewhat to the same effect. I suggested that where the landlord had broken up waste land himself and cultivated it himself either directly or by the agency of hired servants for 12 years, then he should have it as *sir* or *khāmār* land, and he would be in the same position as a raiyat who had done so. The objection which has been taken by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor that land so reclaimed may simply be cultivated land which has remained fallow for some years, is of some force, and I shall be glad to guard against that by any *explanation* which may be approved by the Council, if any better form of words can be found. But I shall be sorry if the Council should reject the amendment altogether."

The Hon'ble MR. REYNOLDS said :—" Perhaps the hon'ble mover of the amendment will agree to the addition of an *explanation* to the following effect :—" that the breaking up of fallow lands for cultivation shall not be deemed to be reclamation of waste land under this section'."

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT said :—" The question of waste land has been considered; the Courts will put the same construction upon it as they do under the waste land rules. I think the term 'waste land' is enough."

The Hon'ble MR. HUNTER said :—" My Lord, with reference to the remarks which have fallen from His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, I beg to point out

that if a definition of waste lands were necessary in this Bill, the necessity has not arisen under my amendment. If that necessity exists, it arises under the preceding clause (i) of the proviso, and indeed it would have also arisen at a much earlier stage in the Bill. The Courts must construe the real meaning of the words 'waste land' in my amendment, precisely as they must construe their meaning in the preceding sub-section and in a number of other Acts. But while I object to the meaning of the words being minimised with special reference to my amendment, I wish to state again, and with the utmost distinctness, that my amendment is intended to cover only the reclamation of *bona fide* waste land. I am sorry that I cannot accept my friend the Hon'ble Mr. Reynolds' picture of the happy condition of the reclaiming landlord under the present Bill. My hon'ble friend says that if the reclaiming landlord keeps the land in his own hands no occupancy-rights will accrue. But this Hon'ble Council well knows that landholders cannot keep large tracts in their own hands, for cultivation by hired labour; that as a matter of fact they reclaim land not to cultivate it themselves but to let it out to tenants. Well, when a landlord lets out the land which he has himself reclaimed, what will happen under the provisions of this Bill? If he lets it to a substantial settled raiyat, the tenant immediately obtains the complete occupancy-right. If the landlord lets it to a stranger, he takes the risk of getting a bad tenant; but even then the tenant will have all the protection of a non-occupancy-raiyat, and the occupancy-right begins to accrue from the moment he enters on the land. It is delusive, under these circumstances, to speak of the reclaiming landlord as being sufficiently protected. I sincerely hope that the Council will accord to him the protection for which I now ask. I believe that it is in the interest alike of the landholder, the cultivator and the State that this protection should be granted."

The amendment was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble BĀBŪ PEĀRĪ MOHAN MUKERJĪ moved that the words "or contract" be substituted for the words after "usage" in section 182. He said:—"The object of this amendment is to take homestead or building land out of the scope of the Bill, and to confine the regulation of the incidents of the tenancy of such land to custom and contract. The Bill is avowedly one for the regulation of the relations of landlord and tenant as regards agricultural and horticultural lands. It should not, therefore, concern itself with homesteads. I perfectly agree to the principle that where the homestead forms part of an agricultural holding the provisions of the Bill should apply to it. But what justification can there be for bringing other building lands within the purview of the Bill? It is true that custom is saved with regard to such lands, but, as their incidents are usually governed by contract, great uncertainty will arise if contracts are ignored and the parties left to fight out the nature of a local custom in Court. The result of the provision will be that until the rights of parties are judicially determined, and until it is known whether a particular custom which has been set up by one of the parties is proved or disproved, they will remain in ignorance of their own rights. One of the most harmful effects of such a law will be the encouragement of flimsy and perishable constructions. It is desirable on all grounds that before a man builds a house to live in he should know the nature of the rights he has in the land, and nothing would secure this better than by giving free scope to contract, as at present, in such cases. The Council is well aware that on the motion of Lord Granville papers relating to tenures of building lands, containing much useful information regarding the practice of different countries, were placed on the table of the House of Lords, and they showed no fact more prominently than that unlimited freedom of contract exists in England in this respect, and that the great London proprietors are the best landlords in the world. All considerations, therefore, converge to show the necessity of giving free scope to contract in the matter of homesteads."

The Hon'ble MR. REYNOLDS said:—"I demur altogether to the remarks of the hon'ble member which implied that the section has anything to do with what are ordinarily known as building leases. This is merely a question of the

homestead of the raiyat. The possession of a homestead is essential to his status as an agriculturist, and we have evidence in the papers before the Council to show that where a landlord has in some cases had the opportunity of putting pressure on a raiyat whom he has not been able to turn out of his holding but out of his homestead, the power has been abused by increasing the rent. The amendment will have the effect of defeating what is really a great part of the object of this section."

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY said:—"I cannot recommend the Council to accept the amendment. The hon'ble member's speech is calculated to lead the Council very far astray from the point which the Committee had before them. Nothing can be more entirely and wholly foreign to this section than the question of building leases such as those in London, extending it may be to 999 years. This section refers merely to the land on which the raiyat's house is built and which he holds in connection with his occupation as a raiyat, and in regard to which we find in almost every district a different custom prevailing. In some districts he pays no rent; in others he does. In some he acquires an occupancy-right at once; in others the right grows up. In some districts he can be evicted from his agricultural holding without prejudice to his right in his homestead land; in others he cannot. Then there are various customs as to what right he has in the materials of his house. There are different customs existing in almost all districts on points like this, and we found it impossible to frame any law which would not be unjust to one party or another, and it was in the face of these difficulties that the Select Committee decided that the matter should be left to be governed by custom. But where there is no custom which can be ascertained, we provide that it shall be governed by the rules which govern ordinary agricultural leases. If there is one means of pressure greater than another, it is by increasing the rent for homestead land—a power which the landlord can bring to bear when he cannot otherwise touch the raiyat in his agricultural holdings."

The Hon'ble BĀBŪ PRĀRĪ MOHAN MUKERJĪ said:—"The language of the section does not on the face of it support the view I have taken of the section. If hon'ble members will, however, read the definition of 'raiyat' in section 5, subsection (2), they will find that, although land might originally have been taken for purposes of agriculture or horticulture, the descendant of the man who originally took the lease would still be deemed a raiyat, although he is a clerk in a Government office or a shopkeeper or a blacksmith. The definition of 'raiyat' is very clear, and there is nothing irrelevant to the argument which I adduced as to the practice in regard to building leases in England; and I think it will be in the interests of the country generally that the change which I suggest should be made."

The amendment was put and negatived.

The Hon'ble BĀBŪ PRĀRĪ MOHAN MUKERJĪ moved that section 186 be omitted. He said:—"Hon'ble members will find that the provisions for penalties contained in this section are altogether one-sided. In the case of a landholder an attempt to distrain would be a criminal offence, but in the case of a raiyat an attempt to resist distraint or to remove distrained crops is no offence. The section is also objectionable on principle, on the ground that it converts into criminal offences acts which are otherwise not criminal. The Indian Penal Code is a complete and exhaustive Code in itself. Any attempt to supplement it by definitions of crime in respect of particular transactions which do not otherwise come within its scope, should be discouraged. If there be a criminal trespass let the offender be punished for it; but why call that a criminal trespass which is in no sense a trespass? Hon'ble members will also observe that the Bill nowhere provides a penalty for removal by the raiyat of crops stored for division or valuation under the dānābandī system."

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY said:—"I must request the Council

to think once, twice and thrice before they accept this amendment. This question was one which was taken up by the Behar Committee, who said—

‘By compelling Behar proprietors to adhere to the restrictions which the law imposes on distraint, you would practically deprive them of the only power of distraint which they care to exercise, namely, that of a private distraint or restraint of crops. It is, Mr. Gibbon thinks, better to do away altogether with a right which, if exercised according to the intention of the law, would be of little or no value, and which, not being exercised in accordance with law, has in the past, and may in the future, lead to great abuses. In these views a majority of the members concur.’

“Then with regard to the other acts, namely, preventing or attempting to prevent the reaping, gathering, storing or removing produce, I can only refer the hon’ble member to what Bábú Bimola Churn Bhattacharji writes as to the system in Behar. He says—

‘The next engine of oppression in the hands of the zamindár is not to make the *dánabandí* (appraisement of crops) at all, but to let the grain rot in the threshing-floor or in the field. When the raiyats decline to accept the zamindár’s terms as to the share of the produce, the zamindár declines to make the appraisement. One year’s loss of rent is nothing to him (the zamindár), but to the raiyat the loss of one year’s crop means starvation. The grain is allowed to rot in the fields, or is eaten up by birds, unless the raiyats come round in time. Another mode of oppression is that after the *dánabandí* or *agorabattai* (appraisement or apportionment of the crops) has been made, the zamindárs do not allow the raiyats to take away their grain.’

“These are the suggestions which we have incorporated in this section. Both the Behar Committee and the Rent Commission say it is a real practical evil, and I can say from my own experience that in regard to the *dánabandí* the amount of damage has been very great, and there is always a difficulty in bringing the question to the decision of the Courts, because it is uncertain where the respective rights of the landlord and the raiyat to the possession of the crop begin and end, and it is therefore difficult for the Courts to say whether the landlord is actually doing an illegal act in stopping the raiyat in his right to reap the crop. These are the reasons which led the Select Committee to accept the section as it stands. The penalty is three months’ imprisonment or a fine of Rs. 500, which is the same as the penalty for criminal trespass. The hon’ble member said the section was one-sided because the landlord may be punished, but for doing these things the raiyat cannot be punished criminally. We have, however, provided a penalty for the raiyat who interferes with the appraisement or division of the crop in the shape of rent at the highest estimate of any neighbouring crop. It is because we hold that the ultimate proprietary right in the grain rests in the raiyat, that we do not punish him criminally for taking action in regard to it.”

The amendment was put and negatived.

The Hon’ble BÁBÚ PEÁRI MOHAN MUKERJI moved that sections 191 and 192 be omitted. He said :—“The effect of section 191 will be to exempt a large majority of Government estates from the operation of the rule of twenty years’ presumption. Government, while desiring to have their relations with their raiyats regulated by the same code of laws which regulated the transactions of private landlords, should not claim exemption from a rule which has worked so very injuriously to the interests of landholders. One hon’ble member remarked the other day that the presumption which the rule raised was incompatible with the very fact that the estate had never been permanently settled. But because the revenue of an estate had never been permanently settled it is no reason to suppose that there might not be numerous raiyati holdings in it the rents payable for which have never been altered. The periodical assessments of revenue which Government have made in their estates should have made them the more reluctant to claim an exceptional privilege in this respect, as nothing can be more easy for them than to prove variations of rent, if such variations have actually taken place. The exemption of Government estates, therefore from the operation of this rule of presumption is highly objectionable. It will destroy rights and privileges of raiyats of Government estates which their fellows on the estates of private owners will continue to enjoy, and it will shake the confidence of the people in the scope and justice of a measure which

provides one law for the raiyats of private owners and another for the raiyats of the State itself. For the very same reasons section 192 is very objectionable. While in the case of private property a contract fixing the rent of a holding at a certain figure will be in the interests of the raiyat binding on all future proprietors and purchasers, all contracts fixing rents at figures which a Revenue-officer may consider to be not fair and equitable for the time being will be in the interests of Government revokable at the will and pleasure of the Revenue-officer. The provision offers a striking contrast to the restrictions imposed by the Bill upon freedom of contract. It violates the sanctity of contract to the injury of the raiyat and for the behoof of Government, while other provisions of the Bill will nullify contracts in the behoof of the raiyats and to the injury of private proprietors."

The Hon'ble MR. QUINTON said :—"This section really contains the law as it stands at present. My hon'ble friend on this and previous occasions has spoken on the assumption that tenants and raiyats under zamindárs are in the same positions as those in temporarily-settled estates under Government. The Government, for wise purposes no doubt, has thought proper that the land-revenue, which is the most important item in the finances of the Government, should, in a great many provinces, be temporarily settled from time to time, and in making these settlements we must take into account how far the value of the land is divided between the tenant and the proprietor; that is, the Government consents to give to the raiyats a part of the revenue. I think the arguments used by the hon'ble member do not in the least apply. There is no permanent settlement; but if you say that, when a man's rent remains unchanged for twenty years, his rent cannot be raised, then it will be impossible for the Government to raise the revenue."

The Hon'ble THE MAHARAJA OF DURBHUNGA said :—"I do not wish to say anything, because I do not think any argument which I may bring forward will tend to persuade the Council to go against the decision to which the Government have already come."

The Hon'ble MR. REYNOLDS said :—"I feel some difficulty in attempting to answer the argument of the hon'ble mover of the amendment, because I have failed to connect his argument with the sections under consideration. I do not understand that this has anything to do with the twenty years' presumption where Government estates are concerned. The principle of the sections seems a fair one, and is specifically laid down in the Regulations, that the landlord cannot create an interest beyond the term to which his own interest extends. That seems to me to be the principle of these sections, and I fail to see that there is anything inequitable in it."

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY said :—"I think we have a right to complain of the repetition of the statement that the Government has made a separate law for Government estates from other estates. There is no such distinction in reality; all temporarily-settled estates will be exactly in the same position; there is no distinction between the Government and any other proprietor, and the assertion that the Government has made a separate provision for their own estates is simply misleading. The rules to which the hon'ble gentleman objects will apply to all lands by whomsoever held in districts which are not permanently settled. The history of the matter is that it is a part of the existing law, which provides that the temporary settlement-holder could not contract beyond the term of his own settlement; a settlement-holder therefore cannot protect his raiyat against subsequent enhancement in case of the subsequent enhancement of the revenue. That is the law, and it is practically repeated in this section. Then we come to the question of the presumption from twenty years' holding at an unchanged rent. The presumption cannot possibly arise where the revenue, and presumably the rent, is being constantly changed. I do not think the question could be better stated

than as it has been formulated by the Rent Commissioners' Bill. The *exception* to section 6 of that Bill says:—

'In the case of a tenure or under-tenure situate in an estate not permanently settled, such presumption shall not operate to prevent the enhancement of the rent of such tenure or under-tenure upon the expiry of a temporary settlement of the revenue, unless the right to hold such tenure or under-tenure for ever at a fixed rate of rent has been expressly recognised in settlement-proceedings by a Revenue-authority empowered by Government to make definitively or confirm settlements.'

"That is to say, where a person has held from the time of the Permanent Settlement there he has a right to go on holding at the same rent, but where you have the rent constantly changed the presumption does not naturally arise that he has held from the Permanent Settlement. It is no idea of our own."

The Hon'ble BĀBŪ PEĀRĪ MOHAN MUKERJĪ said:—"As a matter of fact we know of several estates which have been permanently settled long after 1793. Still when a question under the rule of presumption arises it has been authoritatively held that the Permanent Settlement which is meant in this connection is to be taken as the Permanent Settlement of 1793. So that the argument which has been advanced by the Hon'ble Mr. Quinton on the ground that where there is no permanent settlement there can be no question of presumption, falls to the ground. Where a temporarily-settled estate is in the hands of a farmer or other person in behalf of the Government, it is the Government that will derive the whole benefit of the enhancement that will take place in that estate; therefore whether an estate is in the hands of the Government or a farmer, if it is not a permanently-settled estate it must for all intents and purposes be taken as an estate in which the Government is most beneficially interested. The justification for the existence of that section in the Bill is based on the argument that it finds a place in the Rent Commissioners' Bill, and the justification for section 192 is based on the fact that it is the existing law. If these arguments are allowed to prevail in the case of all sections that are contained in the Bill and which have been omitted from it, we shall have no cause for complaint."

The amendment was put and negatived.

The Hon'ble BĀBŪ PEĀRĪ MOHAN MUKERJĪ moved that the words relating to Regulation VIII of 1793 in Schedule I be omitted. He said:—"The sections of Regulation VIII which the Bill contemplates repealing are the very sections which regulate the relations of landlords and tenants. Next to the rules fixing the revenue in perpetuity, these sections form the most important rules of the Permanent Settlement. If the object of the present measure is 'to restore the raiyats to their original position', as it is avowed to be by Her Majesty's Secretary of State, nothing could be more incompatible with that object than a repeal of the sections in question. In the interests both of landlord and raiyat I think these sections should not be removed from the Statute-book."

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT said:—"The first schedule merely contains, in accordance with our usual practice, those sections of the existing Regulations which will be superseded by the present legislation. The only effect of the hon'ble member's amendment would be that the sections which he wishes to omit from the schedule would speedily find themselves included in a schedule to a Bill framed for the purposes of Statute-law revision. If my hon'ble friend will refer to the first volume of the Lower Provinces Code, he will find that my learned predecessor, who has done so much useful work in removing obsolete matter from the Indian Statute-book, has freely laid a sacrilegious hand on the Permanent Settlement Regulations. And if he were to turn to the English Statute-book he would find that the sacrilegious hands of Statute-law revisers have been laid on an enactment which is not less famous than the Permanent Settlement, on the enactment which appears in the authorized edition of the English Statutes as 25 Ed. I, caps. 1 and 29, but which is commonly known as Magna Charta."

The amendment was put and negatived.

The Hon'ble BĀBŪ PEĀRI MOHAN MUKERJI moved that in Schedule III, column 2, for the words "two years" the words "one year" be substituted. He said:—"The present law is that when a raiyat has been dispossessed by a landlord he may sue to recover possession within one year from the date of dispossession. That is the ruling of the High Court, and its authority goes to remove any doubt in the wording of the law itself. The effect of substituting the period of two years for one year will be to allow independent rights to grow up in the meantime and thus to sow the seeds of litigation. I submit therefore that the present law should be maintained, and that by extending it to two years it will allow new rights to be created, and thus give rise to litigation and to very great complication as regards the determination of the title both of the person who has acquired rights and the person who has been ousted by the zamindār."

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY said:—"The words as they stand in the schedule are in conformity with the policy of the Bill. It has been deliberately decided to legislate that a raiyat who is supposed to have abandoned his holding and has been treated as such might within a period of two years apply to the Court to reinstate him on payment of such costs as may seem fair and equitable; it has been decided that two years is a better period than one year. We leave the occupancy-raiyat two years, a non-occupancy-raiyat six months, to apply to be reinstated in cases in which the abandonment may be found to be involuntary or incomplete."

The Hon'ble MR. EVANS said:—"I am informed that the hon'ble member will be ready to accept a similar wording in section 43 as in section 29. Casting my eye over the Bill I find that the alteration is necessary, inasmuch as a very large number of rent-engagements are not in writing."

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY said:—"I am prepared to put in section 43 words similar to those in section 29."

The Hon'ble BĀBŪ PEĀRI MOHAN MUKERJI, having accepted the proposal so made, by leave withdrew his amendment.

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY moved that the following proviso be added to section 43:—

"Provided that nothing in this section shall prevent a landlord from recovering rent at the rate at which it has been actually paid for a continuous period of not less than three years immediately preceding the period for which the rent is claimed."

The amendment was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY moved that in section 50, sub-section (1), before the word "holding" the words "tenure or" be inserted.

The amendment was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY also moved that in section 52, sub-section (1), clause (a), before the word "holding", in two places where it occurs, the words "tenure or" be inserted;

that in the same sub-section, clause (b), before the word "holding", in two places where it occurs, the words "tenure or" be inserted;

that in section 52, sub-section (2), clause (a), the words "tenure or" be inserted before the word "holding"; and

that in section 52, sub-section (4), before the word "holding", in the two places where it occurs, the words "tenure or" be inserted.

The amendments were put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY also moved that in section 53, for the words "tenure-holder or raiyat" the word "tenant" be substituted.

The amendment was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY also moved that in section 61, subsection (1), before the word "holding" the words "tenure or" be inserted.

The amendment was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY also moved that in section 89, before the word "holding" the words "tenure or" be inserted.

The amendment was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY also moved that in section 90, subsection (2), clause (a), the words "tenure or" be inserted before the word "holding".

The amendment was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY also moved that in section 108, subsections (1) and (2), for the words "under the last foregoing section" the words "under this chapter" be substituted.

The amendment was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY also moved that in the proviso to section 108, the words "tenure or" be inserted before the word "holding" in the two places where it occurs, and the words "tenures or" be inserted before the word "holdings".

The amendment was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY also moved that in section 111, clause (b), for the word "local" the word "civil" be substituted.

The amendment was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY also moved that in section 119, for the words and figures "sections 105, 106, 108 and 109" the following be substituted:—"sections 105 to 109, both inclusive".

The amendment was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY also moved that in section 125, subsection (3), for the words "on the outer door" the words "on a conspicuous part of the outside" be substituted.

The amendment was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY also moved that in section 134, subsection (1), after the words "to be made" the words "from time to time" be inserted.

The amendment was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY also moved that in section 145, after the words "every such suit" the words "or application" be inserted.

The amendment was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY also moved that to section 145 the words "or in which the application is made" be added.

The amendment was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY also moved that in section 158, subsection (1), the word "held by a tenant" be omitted;

that after the words "the landlord or the tenant" the words "of the land" be inserted;

that in clause (a) the words "held by the tenant" be omitted;

that after clause (a) the following be inserted :—

“(b) the name and description of the tenant thereof (if any)”;

and that clauses (b) and (c) of the same sub-section be lettered (c) and (d) respectively.

The amendments were put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY also moved that in sub-section (1) of section 173, after the words “in execution of which a” the words “tenure or” be inserted;

that in sub-section (2) of the same section, before the word “holding” the words “tenure or” be inserted; and

that in sub-section (3) of the same section, before the word “holding” the words “tenure or” be inserted.

The amendments were put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY also moved that in section 174, sub-section (2), after the words “setting aside the sale” the following be added, namely :—

“and the provisions of section 315 of the Code of Civil Procedure shall apply in the case of a sale so set aside”.

The amendment was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY also moved that in section 180, sub-section (1), clause (a), for the word “and”, in the second place where it occurs, the word “or” be substituted.

The amendment was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY also moved that to section 185 the following be added, namely :—

“Subject to the provisions of this chapter, the provisions of the Indian Limitation Act, 1877, shall apply to all suits, appeals and applications mentioned in the last foregoing section.”

The amendment was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY also moved that in section 190, sub-section (6), after the words “from time to time” the words “subject to the sanction (if any) required for making them” be inserted.

The amendment was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY also moved that in section 195 (e), for the words “which is not expressly repealed by this Act” the words “in so far as it relates to those tenures” be substituted.

The amendment was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY also moved that in the Form of Receipt in Schedule II, for the words “Raiyat's portion” the words “Tenant's portion”, and for the words “Raiyat's part” the words “Tenant's part”, be substituted.

The amendment was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY also moved that in Schedule III, Part III, the following words be added to clause 6, namely :—

“in which case the period of limitation shall be governed by the provisions of the Indian Limitation Act, 1877.”

The amendment was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY also moved that the Bill, as amended, be passed.

The Hon'ble THE MAHÁRÁJÁ OF DURBHUNGA said :—“ We have now, my Lord, reached the final stage in the discussion of this Bill. Nothing that I can say will, I am aware, influence this Council in their determination to pass the Bill; but in justice to myself I feel bound to make one or two observations. I have opposed the Bill from the very first, because I considered it an impracticable, unfair and unworkable measure, and, viewing it in its final form, I am still of the same opinion. My hon'ble friend Bábú Peári Mohan Mukerji and myself, however weak we may be in debate, have certainly one advantage over the majority of the members of this Council—in the practical experience that we possess of zamíndári management. I yield to no one in my desire to see the raiyats protected from oppression, but it is my deliberate opinion that this Bill will not accomplish this object; on the contrary, I believe that the legislative safeguards which you have provided, the constant intervention of Revenue-officers in all the details of agricultural life, will lead to the most widespread confusion, and will be as disastrous to the raiyats as to the zamíndárs themselves. My hon'ble friend and myself have endeavoured, to the best of our ability, to point out these dangers to the Council, but our proposed amendments have, almost without exception, been rejected; and the reasonable hopes that we had entertained in the moderation of the Council have been disappointed. I view with the deepest concern the outlook before us. I dread the passions and animosities which this legislation will kindle and inflame. We are embarking rashly on a sea of change, and many will be shipwrecked on the voyage. Such vast innovations cannot be introduced into the rural economy of the province without exciting great commotions. I can only hope that these anticipations may not be realised; but, whatever may be the result, I have, at any rate, the satisfaction of feeling that I have acted as the true friend of my country and the Government in warning you of the political dangers which I believe underlie the proposed legislation.”

The Hon'ble MR. EVANS said :—“ I will not trouble the Council at any length at this stage. I agree with the majority of the Council that the main provisions of the Bill are beneficial. I think that the sections which give to occupancy-raiyats facilities in proving the status which they hold, the changes we have made in favour of landlords as regards the grounds of enhancement, and the provisions in regard to the preparation of a record-of-rights, thus preventing confusion and diminishing litigation, are all beneficial, and I think that the necessity for legislation has been clearly made out which would alone have justified any large change in the rent law which affects the well-being of so many millions. The task has been one of great difficulty, and our success cannot be more than partial. The Committee and the Council have done their best to perform the task which was forced on them, and I support the motion that the Bill as amended be passed. There are some minor points on which I hold a different opinion from the majority of the Council. And there is one point on which there is an irreconcilable difference between me and the majority, and that is the question of the limit on enhancement out of Court. I will not trouble the Council with any repetition of what I have said on this point, but I will point out that the effect will be this. It is perfectly certain that under this very law a large number of landlords will be entitled to enhancements at much higher rates than 12½ per cent.; and when a landlord has taken the raiyats of one village into Court, and has established his right to enhance their rents 30, 40 or 50 per cent., the raiyats of the next village will say ‘Don't take us into Court, but take an enhancement of 15, 20 or 25 per cent. and we will agree.’ The Council have, for reasons which appear to me to be wholly insufficient, enacted that such contracts shall be void, although the raiyats may be convinced that it will be to their interest to consent to an enhancement of their rent to that extent. By this law the zamíndár is forced to take them into Court; if he does not, the result is that, if he were to take kabúliyats by consent at 15 per cent. and then put his finger on their crops to realise the rent they have consented for their own advantage to pay, he will be liable to a fine

of Rs. 200 for every such exaction, and for three years it is open to the raiyat to repudiate. I cannot believe that such a state of things is desirable. I am satisfied that the raiyat is the best judge of when it is to his advantage to keep out of Court. When a raiyat has amicably agreed with his landlord to an enhancement exceeding 12½ per cent., I cannot think it right that the contract should be void. I think the provision is wholly unjustifiable and useless. There is therefore this difference between me and the majority of the Council. I should not however be justified in voting against the Bill, which, as I have said, I consider to be on the whole beneficial, on account of one of its provisions with regard to which I hold a different opinion from the majority of the Council. But I still hope that when the Act goes before him the Secretary of State will make his approval of the Act conditional on the repeal of this clause, or will strongly represent to the Executive Council the necessity of introducing a Bill for that purpose."

The Hon'ble BĀBŪ PEĀRĪ MOHAN MUKERJĪ said:—"Remote as is the expectation—remote beyond remoteness—of inducing your Lordship and this Hon'ble Council to agree to a direct negative of the present motion of the hon'ble member in charge of the Bengal Tenancy Bill, I deem it my duty to entreat your Lordship and this Hon'ble Council to pause before passing the Bill. It has been observed by a high authority, Jeremy Bentham, that 'the legislator is not the master of the disposition of the human heart; he is only their interpreter and their minister. The goodness of the laws depends upon their conformity to general expectation. The legislator ought to be well acquainted with the progress of this expectation in order to act in concert with it.' Allow me, my Lord, to ask, has the Bengal Tenancy Bill satisfied the expectations either of the landholders or of the raiyats? The resolutions passed at meetings held in different parts of these provinces, the numerous memorials which have been submitted to Your Lordship by landlords and raiyats alike, and the public opinion which has found expression in every section of the Native and Anglo-Indian Press, give an emphatic negative to the query. The landholders stand aghast at the dreadful vista of unmerited and uncompensated loss of power and prestige, price and produce, which the measure threatens them with, trembling at the idea of the pains and penalties, the law-suits and litigation, of which they are to reap a plentiful crop, involving zamīndār and raiyat in one common ruin. Nor are the raiyats more appreciative of the benefits intended for them. They loudly express their consternation at the prospect of a law conceived with the best intention for their benefit, but which, they think, will actually make their position much worse than at present. My Lord, in the debates on the Bill my position was an embarrassing one—an existence on sufferance in a Council commanding an overwhelming majority against me, and counting amongst their number the ablest and most distinguished members of Her Majesty's Indian service. In spite of Your Lordship's very kind and reassuring expressions of appreciation of my position, the consciousness of overwhelming odds against me never left me for a moment, creating a perpetual depression of spirit and subtracting much from my usefulness. Nevertheless, I endeavoured to show that the Bill ignores the original scope and object of an amendment of the Rent Law, that it is based on assumptions which are indignantly and vehemently denied by landholders, that some of its provisions make uncalled-for inroads upon vested rights of property, and others militate against conclusions arrived at after careful inquiries conducted under the paramount authority of the British Parliament, and that it is a measure eminently calculated to foment quarrels and disputes, and to sow broadcast the seeds of litigation. I fully appreciate the desire of the hon'ble member in charge of the Bill that there should be a finality at some stage of these discussions, but the passing of a measure which is disliked by all classes connected with the land is not likely to allay the agitation which the discussions regarding it have given rise to. Let us not cry peace where there is no peace. Let us bear in mind that in the exercise of the legislative function in questions of such magnitude, complexity and importance, where every word and sentence we seek to clothe with the authority of law may be fraught with the gravest consequences to millions of unrepresented subjects of Her Gracious Majesty, it can never be unwise to pause and take a

forecast of the future. The question which I would beg Your Lordship and this Hon'ble Council to consider is, whether it is desirable to pass, without further inquiry and deliberation, a measure which it has been publicly said would shake the confidence of the people in the faith of the British nation, and which would set brooding over their wrongs a large and important section of the community who are noted for their loyalty and devotion to the British Crown. Should this Hon'ble Council decide upon passing the measure, I beg Your Lordship's permission still to express a hope that Your Excellency will be pleased to consider whether this is not properly one of the cases, contemplated by the Indian Councils Act, in which Your Excellency might reserve your assent for the signification of the pleasure of Her Gracious Majesty upon it."

The Hon'ble RAO SAHEB VISHVANATH NARAYAN MANDLIK said :—"I had no idea that we should be called upon to vote today for the passing of the Bill. After what has fallen from several hon'ble members in this Council in reference to the shaping of the measure in the Select Committee, and when, as the Hon'ble Mr. Reynolds once or twice remarked during the discussions in Council, that certain principles had been laid down in Committee which he thought were not to be departed from, I saw it was vain to hope that any radical change would be made on some points which in my opinion were clearly a departure from the law as it is enunciated in the Acts of 1859 and 1869. In this contingency, and having carefully looked into the subject, I find the position is one the difficulty of which has been estimated by one of the learned Judges of the High Court, Mr. Field, in this sentence. He says:—'We ought not to interfere with existing rights which have been the creations of our own administration operating upon the natural progress of the country', and he held that no case had 'been made out for disturbing the landmarks of property.' This remark applies, as far as I am concerned, to the position held by sub-raiyats and non-occupancy-raiyats. I do not think either of these classes fill any acknowledged position according to the customary law of India, and I do not except Bengal in making that statement. I speak subject to correction, but, having studied the land laws of nearly all the Provinces, I do say that both these classes of people are new creations. And I do not think a sufficient case has been made out for their being brought in in addition to the large and varied interests we have already got in Bengal. On the other hand, I think, having left the security of the raiyats in the shape of registered contracts, and having enacted the new sections 19, 29 and 43, we have let in a wide door, as I said when speaking to one of the sections, which we might have closed no doubt by inflicting a certain amount of hardship; but that door would have protected a very large number of raiyats. And, on the other hand, we have for the first time enacted provisions with reference to the accrual of rights and the non-accrual of rights in places where no rights have ever existed, as in the case of waste lands; and although the amendment which was carried today in reference to the reclamation of waste lands will give protection to a certain extent, I regret the Council should have hesitated in carrying through some provisions which would have been of very great assistance to the Government and have acted as a direct incentive to vast improvements in landed estates. I see no reason whatever, where no vested interests are concerned of any class of raiyats, why we should forbid people to enter into contracts which would have the protection of registration which I have referred to, and which, while serving the interests of both parties to the contract, will assist the progress of the country.

"A good deal has been said in regard to the agitation in regard to this Bill. To both sides I would say that they ought now to apply themselves to the honest working of the provisions of the Bill which will be passed today. For myself I think the Bill will have an indirect effect in the promotion of litigation to an extent that I almost fear to contemplate. There is not a single provision, so far as I can see, in any of the larger departments of the Bill which leaves it to the parties to settle their own interests by amicable agreement. This is a portion of the Bill which I have failed to understand. It is possible that, not

knowing the details of the enhancement law and the law of contracts and possibly of other departments which have been amended by this Bill, I have not been able to follow one side or the other. But I have read the papers very carefully, and I think, and the district officers all think, that litigation will be the result. While, therefore, I shall not oppose the passing of the measure, I am sorry to say that I do not see how I can support it."

The Hon'ble MR. REYNOLDS said :—"Every member of this Council must be impressed with a sense of the responsibility which attaches to the vote he is about to give on this motion, and this applies with special force to those members who are more closely connected than the rest with those provinces to which the Bill will extend—the provinces of Bengal and Behar. For myself, I may be permitted to say that I approach the question with a deep feeling of this responsibility, a feeling proportioned to the magnitude of the interests at stake, and to my recognition of this Bill as the most important legislative measure undertaken by the Government since 1793. The experience of my official life enables me to appreciate the difficulty of the problem we have been called upon to solve. I am one of the few members of this Council who have tried rent-suits under the old Regulation of 1799 and under Act X of 1859. As Superintendent of Revenue Survey in the eastern districts I have been called upon to deal with the complicated system of land-tenure which prevails in that part of the country. I have been in executive charge of two districts which have been prominently noticed in the course of these debates,—the districts of Midnapur and Mymensingh,—and it has been my duty, as a member of the Board of Revenue, to superintend the administration of Government estates and of the properties under the charge of the Court of Wards. If my experience has taught me nothing else, it has at least taught me that the relations of landlord and tenant in those provinces present questions of a very difficult and complicated nature—questions covering a vast field, and demanding an intimate acquaintance both with the history of the past and with the circumstances of the present, but at the same time questions which are closely bound up with the national life, and which the statesmen and legislators of Bengal ought not to ignore or to put aside. If it would be presumptuous to hope for the enactment of a perfect rent law, it would be a saint-hearted neglect of duty to shrink from an attempt to frame the best law we can.

"To one who endeavours, in this spirit, to gather up the work of legislation from the point at which the authors of the Permanent Settlement concluded their labours, it will probably appear that, while nothing fundamental requires to be changed, the altered conditions of the present day call for a different method of treatment from that which was thought sufficient in 1793. It is for us to prescribe definite rules where the legislators of that day were content to lay down broad general principles. Their Regulations were sometimes as much homilies as laws; and the real object of them is to be gathered rather from the opening preamble than from the sections which contain the specific enactments. To us, who can look at their legislation in the light of subsequent events, it is remarkable to observe how much they seem to have trusted to general declarations, to enunciations of the line of conduct which the Governor General in Council expected proprietors of land to pursue, and to a belief that such matters as were left undefined would be arranged by mutual forbearance and pacific agreement. We know now that some of their anticipations were signally falsified by the results. But they were careful to reserve to their successors, in clear and explicit terms, the power of further legislation; and the broad lines of their policy were so wise and equitable that it may safely be said that it will never be necessary for the Indian lawgiver to depart from, or tamper with, the principles which pervade the great settlement of Lord Cornwallis.

"It, therefore, seems to me a great merit in this Bill that it aims at no other objects than those which the authors of the Permanent Settlement had in view. The particular means by which those objects are to be attained have varied, and may again vary hereafter, as the circumstances of the country change. What is necessary is not to subvert but to supplement the venerable law, to fill in its outlines, and to apply the spirit of its provisions to the remedy of

evils which have grown up since its promulgation. The opponents of the Bill may fairly be challenged to point to a single section which contravenes this principle. The Bill is, indeed, little more than a modernized version of those Settlement Regulations which deal with the question of landlord and tenant; it translates the law of 1793 into the language of our own day, with such amplifications as experience has shown to be necessary to prevent its meaning from being misunderstood. I think that such considerations as these afford a conclusive answer to those who complain of this Bill as an infringement of the compact which Government made with the zamindars in 1793. What was guaranteed to them was that their public assessment should be fixed for ever, and that they should enjoy exclusively the fruits of their own good management and industry. They were never promised that they should enjoy the fruits of the good management and industry of others. It may be true that the Regulations of 1793 do not say a word about rights of occupancy or compensation for improvements; but this is merely because the authors of the Permanent Settlement used a different language, not because their language bore a different meaning. It may be true that the legislators of 1793 laid great stress on the delivery of pattás, and that there is no corresponding provision in this Bill; but this is because the object which they sought to attain by this means can now be more effectually secured by provisions of a different kind. I have dwelt at some length upon this topic, because in a matter in which the good faith of the Government has been challenged I think it desirable that the members of this Council should speak with no uncertain sound. I do not desire to detain the Council with a detailed review of the other objections which have been brought forward against the measure. I believe those objections admit of an answer equally complete, and I welcome the Bill as an earnest and sincere attempt to deal with the questions in issue upon the subject.

"It is an earnest and sincere attempt, but I fear it is nothing more than an attempt. I have already said in the course of this debate that I do not consider this Bill as a complete or wholly satisfactory measure. While I acknowledge the improvements which it introduces in the existing law, it seems to me to fail in giving that adequate protection to the raiyat which the authors of the Permanent Settlement reserved the right to give, and which, in my opinion, the circumstances of the country require should be given now. I believe that time will shortly bring these defects clearly to light, and will show the necessity for further legislation. The character of that legislation cannot be precisely indicated now. I feel some doubt as to the effect of the provision which confines the occupancy-right of the settled raiyat to the village. I think it probable that it will be found necessary to remove from the law all reference to the prevailing rate as a general ground of enhancement. But there are two questions in regard to which I feel no doubt that the provisions of the Bill are altogether inadequate, and that experience will show them to be so. These are the questions of the gross-produce limit of rent, and of the status of the non-occupancy-raiyat. The provisions of the Bill will greatly stimulate and facilitate enhancements, and this not only where such enhancements might fairly be given, but in areas in which rents are already too high. The Behar raiyat, who is already paying a rackrent, will find himself exposed to a further claim on the ground of a rise in prices. The most effectual safeguard (the only safeguard, so far as I know, which has as yet been suggested) is the enactment of a rule which would limit the maximum rent to a fixed proportion of the produce in staple crops. The Council were possibly right in deciding that the evidence before them did not justify the enactment of such a rule, but I cannot help regarding the omission of any such safeguard as a serious blemish. Then, with regard to the non-occupancy-raiyat, I admit that a landlord ought to have some power of choosing his tenants, but he should not be allowed to exercise it capriciously, or to use it as a mere engine for the extortion of a higher rent. The provisions which I believe will be found necessary for the non-occupancy-raiyat are briefly these—the initial lease should be for a period of not less than three years, and at the end of that term the landlord should be required to elect once for all whether he will evict the tenant or allow him to stay. If he determines to evict, he should be required to pay reasonable compensation. If he

decides to let the tenant stay, the raiyat should have a right to hold for a further term of 10 years at a rent to be mutually agreed upon, or, in case of dispute, to be fixed by the Court. At the end of that term the raiyat would have acquired occupancy-rights, and would come under the provisions of the ordinary law. In these respects I look upon this Bill as seriously, perhaps dangerously, inadequate. But this need not prevent my supporting the motion that the Bill shall pass. If my apprehensions should be verified by the results of the working of the Bill, it can be supplemented by such further legislation as circumstances may show to be necessary. In the meantime I am contented to accept it as an instalment of what is required in order to put the relations of landlord and tenant in these provinces on a secure and permanent footing."

The Hon'ble MR. HUNTER said:—"My Lord, I had not intended to say anything further at this stage. But a remark which has just fallen from the Hon'ble the Mahārājā of Durbhunga compels me, as a member of the Select Committee, to make one observation. The Hon'ble the Mahārājā has just told us that his 'amendments have, almost without exception, been rejected.' This is, perhaps, due in part to the circumstance that neither in the Select Committee nor in this Council have we had the advantage, with a few exceptions, of hearing the Hon'ble the Mahārājā's arguments in support of the amendments which stood in his name. Both in the Select Committee and in this Council special facilities have been given to his friend and my friend, the Hon'ble Peāri Mohan Mukerji, to bring forward the Mahārājā's amendments in his absence. The Hon'ble Peāri Mohan Mukerji largely availed himself of these facilities in the Select Committee, and I appeal to him whether he was not fairly and patiently listened to. But in this Council the Hon'ble Peāri Mohan Mukerji has not seen fit to bring forward and support by argument the majority of the amendments standing in the Mahārājā's name. The result is that a number of the Mahārājā's amendments have been withdrawn by the Mahārājā himself on the occasions when he was present, and a still larger number have not been put in his absence. It is, therefore, incorrect to say that the Hon'ble the Mahārājā's amendments have, with scarcely an exception, been lost. A great proportion of them have not come before the Council at all."

The Hon'ble MR. AMIR ALI said:—"The issue involved in the present motion is one of such magnitude, fraught with such serious consequences for good or for evil to the agricultural classes in this province, that with all my desire not to inflict another speech on this Hon'ble Council I cannot record a mere silent vote. I have received many telegrams from the Mufassal asking me to urge on this Council the expediency of postponing the passing of this Bill. And it is, therefore, especially necessary I should explain my reasons for supporting the present motion. I have already stated that I entirely approve of the principles embodied in the Bill. I have objected to some of the main provisions on the ground that they either gave a very inadequate security to the classes for whose protection it was chiefly intended, or were likely to prove mischievous in their tendency to the raiyats. My strongest objection was to the ground of enhancement founded on the basis of increase in the prices of food-crops. I still maintain that this ground of enhancement will prove disastrous before long to the raiyats of Bengal and Behar. I had hoped that some of the objectionable features to which I ventured to refer would be removed before the final vote was taken. That has not happened. Still I do not feel I would be justified in withholding my vote from the present motion. The difficulties which are springing up on all sides in consequence of the tension of feeling between the classes chiefly interested in the passing of the measure make any further delay undesirable. Bearing in mind the powers reserved to the Local Government under section 196 to pass any enactment which the circumstances and exigencies of the moment may call for, I believe that this legislature has provided a sufficient remedy for the evils likely to arise under the provisions of the present Bill. Looking at the Bill from this point of view, I have not much hesitation in supporting the present motion. I regard it as a step in the right direction; further experience will show its defects and shortcomings, its difficulties and dangers. I trust to the Bengal

Government to remedy these defects the moment the necessity for doing so becomes urgent."

The Hon'ble MR. GIBBON said:—"I have no intention or wish to detain the Council with a long speech by entering into the merits of the Bill. But I believe the Bill is on the whole a good Bill, and will be beneficial in its operation. There are, however, some sections of the Bill, but very few, on which I differed from the Select Committee; I had hoped that these sections would have been amended, but bow loyally to the decision of the Council with regard to them. The Bill will make great changes in the mode of transacting business, and it will take time to make them. I will only express the hope that the Government, after the Bill is passed, will see its way to making litigation cheaper and more within our means."

His Honour THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR said:—"I can congratulate the Government of India, the Government of Bengal and the Province generally that this Bill has reached that stage at which from the acceptance of the motion now before the Council it will pass into law. It has been a labour of great research and toil for more than ten years. It has occupied the minds of men of different experience and of different opinions regarding the land-revenue system and landed tenures in Bengal; and in the consideration of which Natives and Europeans, officials and non-officials, zamindars and planters, and even the raiyats themselves, have been represented. It has been computed that the papers connected with the discussion and passing of Act X of 1859 could be collected in a volume not larger than the one in my hand; and it is a matter of fact that the literature connected with the measure which we have now before us would fill the shelves of a moderately large sized library—so wide has been the enquiry, so extended the investigation and so general has been the public interest affecting the great problems at issue in this legislation. Again, I have seen it stated that the authorship of the Bill rests with several different persons. I have seen it attributed to the exalted nobleman, Lord Ripon, who has lately gone from among us; I have seen it attributed to the Hon'ble Member, Mr. Ilbert, at present in charge of the Legislative Department, to the Hon'ble Sir Stuart Bayley, and to myself, and to several other gentlemen both in and out of this Council. The fact, however, is that the origin of this measure goes much further back than that; and if any one cares to look into the earlier records on the subject he will find that the first warning note dates as far back as 1864, in the days of Lord Lawrence; and I believe that every Viceroy, and I am certain that every Lieutenant-Governor since that time, has had something to do with this large and important measure. Therefore, the contention which the Maharájá of Durbhunga and Bábu Peári Mohan Mukerji have raised on the subject of inadequate consideration and imperfect examination of the Bill seems to me to be absolutely untenable. The Maharájá of Durbhunga tells us that the Bill will be found to be impracticable, unfair and unworkable; that it will not protect raiyats, because the Revenue Courts will be constantly interfering; and he argues, and argues apparently in all sincerity, that a condition of things which would leave the raiyats at the will of the zamindar is the only and best solution of the difficulties of the case. His contention apparently is that the self-interest of the parties concerned is the best security against all evils. Now I wish to point out that that great nobleman who looks down upon us in this Council Chamber from that picture with such a genial countenance, when he carried out the Permanent Settlement, was actuated with this very idea that the self-interest of the zamindars would always lead them to act with moderation and equity for the good of their raiyats and tenants. Proceeding on that principle he refused to entertain the proposals advocated by Sir John Shore and others of his advisers, that in carrying out a scheme for the settlement of the revenue he should endeavour also to legislate on the settlement of rents. His notion was that a Permanent Settlement with the zamindars would tend to the creation of a landed aristocracy throughout the country much in the circumstances of the English country gentleman, and that the self-interest of one in that position would clearly lead him to reside on his own estates, to extend cultivation, to expend

capital on improvements, to settle the rents of his raiyats and to generally establish the rights of all classes of cultivators on his property; and thus to bring about all the benefits which self-interest induces. But what were the results? Certainly none of these anticipations were realized. Within a very few years of the passing of the Permanent Settlement law the preamble of Regulation VIII of 1819 shows us that the zamíndárs had become absentee proprietors and mere rent receivers; they had abnegated all their rights and responsibilities as landholders; they had created tenures of all degrees—patnís, dar-patnís, se-patnís and the like, each in their turn permanent, heritable and transferable tenures; and at the end of this long string of intermediate holders came the unfortunate raiyats, by whose toil this whole intermediary system had to be supported. Thus the main object of Lord Cornwallis' Permanent Settlement was entirely lost. Then we come to Act X of 1859, which was the first serious attempt to break in on the rule of absolutism which the uncontrolled zamíndári system had brought about. The legislation of that year was an earnest effort to secure to the raiyat the right of occupancy to which the common law of the country had entitled him before. A very few years after that law was passed the zamíndárs found a way to avoid the accrual of the occupancy-right, and with the help of the Courts they did avoid it; they shifted the raiyats from their lands to such a degree in all parts of the province that the Government had to take up seriously the necessity of legislating for the maintenance of the raiyats on their ancestral holdings. That was the origin of the present Bill, and in giving effect to it I do not see how it can be argued that we are going out of our proper sphere of legislation; the idea of leaving these two unequal parties to settle their affairs between themselves the experience of the past shows to be impossible. It may be that the passing of the Act will, for a time at least, create some uncertainty in the minds of men. But my hope is that, as power is given to the Local Government, with the sanction of the Governor General in Council, to fix the date on which the law is to be put into operation, a period of at least six months will be necessary for the framing of the rules which are required to be passed under the Act, and for the necessary preparation for its introduction. The best chance of the success of the measure will be the attitude of the zamíndárs towards it; but I hope they will soon realise the fact that their vested interests are not attacked in any degree, and that they owe a duty to the raiyats in respecting the rights which appertain to them."

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY said:—"My Lord, I shall not detain the Council long, but I have a few remarks to make in reply to some of the points raised by different hon'ble members in the course of this debate. I have found my position throughout the debate somewhat difficult, because I have had to answer two fires from entirely different directions, and now again on one side I am told that the measure is impracticable and unfair, that the Council have rejected reasonable proposals and modifications, and that the Bill is not in conformity with general expectation. On the other hand I am told that it is not adequate to give the protection which is required. It is a little difficult for me to answer by one set of considerations both these attacks from different points of view, and first I wish to refer to what has fallen from the hon'ble member opposite (Bábú Peári Mohan Mukerji), who has undertaken the burden of defending the interests of the zamíndárs, and has explained to the Council that he felt his existence here to be on sufferance, and suffered from the depression which such a position naturally causes. I can only say, speaking, I am sure, not only for myself, but for the Council generally, that having regard, both to the ability with which he has debated the question, the moderation and yet the undaunted persistence with which he has upheld the zamíndárs' interests, the admirable patience and temper with which he has supported his own case, very frequently in a minority of one and deserted by all from whom he might have expected assistance, I can assure the hon'ble gentleman that I am sure the Council must all consider the zamíndárs' party could not have had an abler representative in this Council, or one whose conduct of the debate could have so thoroughly won their respect. There is one point which he only touched, but which was specially brought forward on

a previous occasion by the Hon'ble the Maharájá of Durbhunga, and which is perpetually repeated in the Press, to the effect that because only three members of the Select Committee signed the report without some reservation of special points, therefore the Bill has really the authority of only three members. This has been repeated so persistently, and is so likely to do harm when the facts are not properly understood, that I must, although the argument put forward is so unreasonable and unfair as to amount almost to an insult to the intelligence of the Council, ask your permission to say a few words in regard to it. The Committee consisted of more than half the members of this Council, and it included only two representatives of the Executive Council. Every Additional Member except the hon'ble member who represents Madras, the hon'ble member who represents Bombay, and one other hon'ble member who is not here today, was on the Committee; and the Executive Council, as I say, was represented only by Mr. Ilbert and myself. Then, in addition to the fact that eleven out of the whole twenty members of this Council were on this Committee, which is a very unusual number for a Select Committee, and consequently necessitated considerable divergence of opinion, I would point out that we had altogether something over 60 sittings, and I have been through the notes of the Committee's proceedings, and I find that at each of these sittings on an average we decided from 15 to 18 motions. Thus we came to something over 1,000 decisions. Now, is it reasonable to suppose when 1,000 points are brought before a Committee on which there are 11 representatives, that there would be unanimity of opinion? Is it reasonable to suppose that because in various points we differed that therefore the majority were not in accord as to the main questions of this Bill being a just or right and proper measure? I think, if you will consider what the difficulties in the way were, how impossible it was to get agreement in all things, in the multitude of minute points that came before us, I think you will see how utterly unfair and unreasonable the argument is that because upon some points a good many of the members, having been in the minority, retained their opinion, therefore this Bill has not really the concurrence of the majority of the Committee. If it was so, I might add my name to the number of dissentients. I was in the minority on several occasions, but I should be very sorry that the fact should be held to bind me to the opinion that this is not a good Bill. Of course, as soon as the question came to the test of the voting, it was apparent that only two members of the whole Council wished to postpone the Bill, and the same two wished that it should not pass. All the rest were anxious that it should pass. Just as if all the gentlemen sitting here today had to prepare a *menu* for their dinner there would be no two exactly alike, but it would be very unreasonable to say that they did not vote for having dinner at all. Or to take another illustration: if a train is going as far as Allahabad some passengers might wish it were going further, others might wish it stopped a longer or shorter time at particular places, but yet all are very well content to go by it. In this case only two members wished that the train should not start at all. Such differences of opinion as these were the essential outcome of the Bill being exceedingly complicated, the Committee being exceedingly numerous, and having not only two extreme parties both strongly represented in it, but also of a very varied experience of different parts of the country being brought to bear upon the problems which were being discussed.

"Then we are told the Bill is not in conformity with the general expectation. In one sense it is in conformity with the general expectation; that is to say, I presume the general expectation was that this Council, under the presidency of His Excellency the Viceroy, would occupy a middle position, which it actually has occupied, and would as it were moderate between those who were extremely anxious for the zamindár's interests and those who were extremely anxious for the victory of the raiyat's interests. In that sense I claim that the Bill is in conformity with the general expectation. In another sense certainly it is not, because it is the resultant of two contrary forces which have brought about a Bill which goes in the direction of neither, but in the medium direction between the two.

"Then we have been told that we have deserted the original scope of the

Bill and what we laid down in our letter to the Secretary of State as the objects and intentions of the Bill. I think, if this statement is examined, it will not be found to be based on any accurate foundation. We have in the course of the discussion examined most of the points one by one in reference to which the assertion was made, and I think I may say that we have fairly maintained our position. It is perfectly true that a good many points which we laid down in our letter to the Secretary of State, and on which we intended to legislate, we have cut adrift; but it was because we found the ship was over-weighted, or that they were points in themselves which could not be carried out. We have got rid of the right of transfer, and I do not presume that the hon'ble gentleman who charges us with having deserted our original position would make that a ground of objection. I maintain, however, that in regard to contract and all the other points of importance we have practically carried out what we proposed to the Secretary of State. The real fact is that, after the very careful enquiry which was given when the question of revising the rent law was under discussion, it became impossible that any legislation should take a direction very materially different from what it has taken. I feel therefore that, however we might disagree, nobody who reads these papers can think that we are going back from the principles laid down by the Rent Commission. Their report is an elaborate one, and I do not think that we have departed far from the foundations which they laid, and on which the legislature was practically bound to build.

"There are one or two other points on which I should like to make some remarks. One is the great danger which has been so much enforced on our attention of the spread of litigation. I have no doubt whatever that the Bill will cause litigation; it would be worse than foolishness to argue that it will not. Act X of 1859 caused a great deal of litigation; in fact, wherever you give or define rights, you must cause litigation. So long as the raiyat is absolutely submissive to the zamindar, and so long as he has no rights to enforce, and no Courts to enforce them in, so long will there be no litigation; but when you find customary rights being questioned, being in the excitement of agitation supported on one side and weakened in the other; when you find what my hon'ble friend opposite (Mr. Evans) called the moral rights of the raiyat existing in an abstract form, but impossible to prove in a concrete form, then if you attempt to define those rights and give the raiyat an opportunity of proving them, doubtless you must have litigation. The alternative of no litigation is to leave the raiyat entirely at the mercy of the opposite party—the party against whom he has his rights to enforce; and that, I think, is a sufficient answer. Nobody wants litigation, but if the alternatives are to give the raiyat rights and enable him to enforce them, or to give him no rights at all, then I have no hesitation in saying we should willingly choose the former alternative. We are told that, as the outcome of this Bill, especially of the Settlement and Record chapter, every non-occupancy-raiyat will try and prove occupancy-rights, every occupancy-raiyat will try and prove a right to hold at fixed rates. But why is this? Simply because at the present moment neither raiyat nor landlord knows what rights he has. There is no record that the Courts will accept, and all is left to hard swearing. The Benares Division is like the Behar Division permanently settled. Its population is the same, the tenures are the same, and the rights ought to be the same. If they are not, it is because in the one province they are properly recorded; in the other they are not. Therefore I say that though the immediate result of this Bill will be a considerable increase of litigation, yet the result of it, and especially I refer to the Settlement chapter, which will, as His Excellency has told you, be applied only experimentally to a single district in Behar, should undoubtedly be to give a definiteness and stability to rights that are now indefinite and unstable, and thus tend ultimately to a very great decrease in litigation.

"I would now refer to the Hon'ble Mr. Hunter's point about the pressure of the population on the soil, and the necessity for bringing tracts at present lying waste under cultivation. Looking at the question as he does from a philosophical point of view, from a deeper point of view than the particular

provisions of this Bill, he says when you define a raiyat's rights and how he is to enforce them, you have only done half your work. He says the question is a question between the productiveness of the soil and the pressure of the population on that soil, and in that view he has successfully urged in connection with this Bill a provision by which landlords should be encouraged to break up the soil and give more room for the increased production of food; but going outside the Bill he also suggested a further measure—that of inquiring into the possibility of a large system of internal emigration. Now there is no doubt whatever that in various parts of Bengal and Assam there are enormous areas of waste land available, while on the other hand there is no doubt that in various parts of Behar and of Bengal there is very great pressure of population on the soil; and if we can transfer the surplus population to these waste lands we shall do more to stave off famine than almost any other measure we can adopt. Now I find that at the present moment there are nine millions of acres in Assam of culturable soil available to anybody who chooses to ask for it, while in Behar there is a pressure of 800 souls per square mile; and from that province some 80,000 persons migrate (not emigrate) annually into Eastern Bengal; they cut the crops and come back to their homes. People naturally ask why these men undertake a long journey of about 200 miles and yet do not settle there. The fact remains that they do not settle down, and we have to deal with facts as we find them. Well the most obvious resource which occurs to every one is a system of State emigration. But I find that wherever attempts have been made by the State as a State to induce emigration, they have not resulted in a brilliant success. They have been attempted in Burma, in the Central Provinces and in the Dooars, but I may be permitted to say that State emigration, so called, has been a failure. I was glad therefore to find that my hon'ble friend did not confine himself to a system of State emigration, that is to say, to emigration assisted by advances from the State, which means not only State assistance and support, but also State supervision, State collections and State prosecutions. The fact is the people who are most ready to take advances are the people who are least able to help themselves, least likely to work, least likely to repay them. The planter never looks to have his advances directly repaid. The Government must look to it, and yet cannot without discredit resort to the only measures which would effectually enforce it. As State emigration has not succeeded in the past, neither, I am persuaded, will it succeed in the future. But the Hon'ble Mr. Hunter has urged that private enterprise assisted by Government can do what the State working directly cannot do; and I can only say that, while the work is one which I think Government cannot do for itself, I quite agree with him that the State may well encourage private enterprise in this direction and be prepared to give assistance, and the Government will, I am sure, be glad to consider favourably any well digested project of this kind coming before them the initiative in which is taken by private enterprise.

"I have only one word more to say. We have been warned in somewhat solemn terms of the very serious nature of the measure which we are now passing. We have been told what a heavy responsibility rests upon us. I am sure I may say, not only for myself, but for my colleagues who have been associated with me in the labours of the Select Committee, that while we have been working upon it for two years, giving to it our best time, thoughts and energies, we certainly felt the sense of responsibility in what we were doing to be very great. From the very beginning it has been by no means a light task, and it has been by no means with a light heart that we have undertaken it. We have had the energies of the two conflicting interests brought to bear upon us as a heavy burthen in some cases,—I will not say unduly brought to bear,—but we have had to support a good deal of painful criticism, both from old friends and outsiders. However, as was said by my hon'ble friend Mr. Reynolds, I think we may justly claim that what we have done is really an earnest and sincere attempt to carry out under a full sense of the responsibility the duty which the Council imposed upon the Committee two years ago. I do not venture to say that I believe in any Utopia which will be brought about by the operation of this Bill. It takes a very long time for the leaven of land

legislation in India to lighten the whole lump of agricultural customs, modes of thought and ways of procedure. Moreover, as I have said already, I believe in the first instance it will lead to considerable litigation. But I do believe that when this agitation has gone down it will be found that we have really gone far to solve a most difficult problem in the way which is most just to the interests of the zamindárs and the raiyats alike, and in a way which will certainly conduce to the stability of the country and in the future to the great lessening of litigation."

His Excellency THE PRESIDENT said :—" It is perhaps as well that I should say a few words before putting the motion. Sir Steuart Bayley, in his admirable speech, has explained so fully the views of the Government of India, and has anticipated so many of the points upon which I had felt inclined to touch, that there is but little for me to add. At the same time it is but fair to my colleagues that I should take this opportunity of saying how glad I have been to associate myself with them in the passing of this measure. It is true I have only come in time to take part in its recent stages, but I should be very unwilling on that account to withdraw in any degree from the full responsibility which rightly attaches to the head of the Government of India for any Act passed by this Legislative Council. Moreover, it must be remembered that before reaching Calcutta I was perfectly familiar with almost all the issues raised in this Bill. Similar discussions took place in reference to Act X of 1859 when I was Under Secretary of State for India; and other circumstances have for some years past called my special attention to questions connected with land legislation. It was urged at that time that Act X of 1859 was an infringement of the Permanent Settlement; but I was convinced then, as I am convinced now, and as the British and Indian Governments of that day and of this were and are convinced, that the 'permanency' of Lord Cornwallis' settlement applied to the pledge given by His Excellency never to demand from the zamindárs an increase of the assessment which at that date was imposed upon them; but that, so far from any quality of permanency having been then officially impressed upon the relations subsisting between the zamindárs and their raiyats, the Indian Administration of the day and the East India Company reserved to themselves in the most explicit and express manner the right of interfering in the interests and for the protection of the raiyats whenever circumstances might require them to do so. But I have no hesitation in adding that, even if no such reservation had been made by Lord Cornwallis and his colleagues, there would have remained an inherent and indefeasible right in the Government of India to enter upon legislation such as that we have undertaken as a matter of public policy, and in the interests of the community at large. I do not presume, however, to say that, in spite of my conscientious endeavours to master all the intricacies of the Bill, I have felt myself in a position to pass an authoritative opinion upon all the subordinate points which are involved in it. A great number of those points are of a technical character, and can only be properly decided by those who have a practical acquaintance with the agricultural conditions of the country. Again, there are some parts of the Bill to which I have assented with a fuller and more satisfactory conviction than to others, while there are some with regard to which I have subordinated my indefinite impressions to the opinions and authority of those who were more competent than myself to come to a decision upon them. It was impossible that this should have been otherwise; but, taking the measure as a whole, I have no hesitation in saying, both with respect to its principles, its general features and its chief details, that the Bill as it stands has my hearty and sincere support. I believe with Mr. Reynolds that it is a translation and re-production in the language of the day of the spirit and essence of Lord Cornwallis' Settlement, that it is in harmony with his intentions, that it carries out his ideas, that it is calculated to ensure the results he aimed at, and that it is conceived in the same beneficent and generous spirit which actuated the original framers of the Regulations of 1793. Lord Cornwallis desired to relieve the zamindárs from the worry and ruin occasioned by the capricious and frequent enhancements exacted from them by former Governments; and it is evident from his language that he expected they would show

the same consideration to their raiyats. I am happy to think that all of us assembled here today, no matter what our individual opinions upon various points of this measure may be, are actuated by the same honest and conscientious desire to do justice to each of the interests concerned, and to regulate their relations in such a manner as to secure the rights of the one and to respect those of the other. Nor is there one of us who would not have been ready to have submitted to any amount of additional labour or inconvenience, had there been any hope that by further discussion we could have arrived at a more satisfactory conclusion than that which we have reached.

"These few observations are all that it is necessary for me to say on the Bill generally; but there is one accusation which has been brought against the Government of India, and against its responsible head, so extraordinary and unfounded that it is right I should vindicate both myself and my colleagues in the matter. In consequence of a telegram which has been sent to England for the purpose of being used in Parliament, a statement is about to be made that the Viceroy of India has rushed this Bill with indecent haste through the Legislative Council, in order that he might hurry off to Simla. That statement ought never to have been made. So far from any haste or desire for haste having attended the passing of this measure, I would venture to remind the Council that independent of the long consideration it has received since it was introduced in 1882—I may say ever since the letter of the Government of India was written in March, 1881—the most ample opportunity has been given to those interested on either side of stating their objections, and of bringing to the notice of the legislature any alterations they might have to suggest. After lengthy debates in Council upon its first introduction, it was referred to a Select Committee. There were 64 meetings of that Select Committee, each meeting lasting nearly four hours—periods which if added together would amount to 19 or 20 days of 12 hours each. At these discussions the representatives of the zamíndárs had the most ample opportunities given them of pressing their views upon their colleagues; and so far from their representations having failed to produce any effect, so far from the observation of an hon'ble member being true that amendments proceeding from the zamíndárs' representatives always failed to meet with due consideration at the hands of the Committee, even since I myself have been in the country,—that is to say, within the last two or three months,—amendments of the most important kind, amendments which the zamíndárs represented as being vital to their interests, have been incorporated with the Bill. Amongst these amendments, I may mention the elimination of the word 'estate', which gave to the clause in which it was found an operation so wide as to be very disadvantageous to the interests of the zamíndárs. The right of transfer which was found in the original Bill was also removed at the instance of the zamíndár party. It was agreed for the same reason that no limit should be placed upon the initial rent to be demanded from the non-occupancy-raiyat, that is to say, that there should be no interference with freedom of contract in respect of rent between the zamíndár and his ordinary tenant; for it will be observed that the Bill has been careful to discriminate between the ancient, customary and acknowledged rights of occupancy and its attendant incidents universally acknowledged to be inherent in the resident raiyat, and the unprivileged status of the non-occupancy-raiyat. Again, it was proposed in the original draft of the Bill to introduce a universal limit to rent, represented by one-fifth of the value of the gross produce. That limitation has been abolished. In the original Bill, fractional limitations were imposed upon enhancements in Court. These fractional limitations have disappeared. There was also a clause which nullified all contracts which had been entered into between the zamíndárs and their raiyats during the last twenty years. That clause was recognised as unjust, and has been excised. There was another chapter, giving to the non-occupancy-tenant compensation for disturbance on eviction. It was pleaded by the representatives of the zamíndárs that the introduction of a novel principle of the kind would work a great deal of injustice; and it was therefore dropped. In the chapter relating to agreements for enhancements out of Court, the representations of the zamíndárs have been taken into account, as far as

circumstances permitted, and a subsidiary clause has been introduced with the object of redressing the hardships entailed by the hard-and-fast application of the 12 per cent. rule. Liberal reclamation clauses were also introduced in the interests of the zamíndárs; and no later than this morning a most important amendment, moved by the Hon'ble Mr. Hunter, was unanimously accepted by the Council in their anxiety to encourage the zamíndárs to improve their properties, and to relieve them of all unnecessary restrictions in dealing with any tracts of land they might themselves bring under cultivation. I do not say that in agreeing to these modifications we were actuated by any other motive than a desire to do equal justice between the two parties. We did not adopt these alterations in order to conciliate the zamíndárs, or by way of offering a compromise. That would not have been consistent with our duty to the raiyats; nor is it within the province of the Government of India to enter into compromises. The Government of India distributes justice, and that is what we have endeavoured to do in this Bill. We agreed to these concessions because we thought the demand for them was just; but I have mentioned the circumstance in order to rebut the assertion that the amendments introduced in the interests of the zamíndárs and by their representatives have been uniformly rejected or disparaged. I fear that the enumeration I have made of these modifications, which have told so largely in favour of the zamíndárs, will have renewed the pang felt by those of my hon'ble colleagues who were opposed to their being made, and who, so far from admitting that the zamíndárs have been hardly dealt with, contend, on the contrary, that this Bill still falls short of giving adequate protection to the raiyat. At all events, if there is one thing more obvious than another, it is this: that the Government of India has had to exercise a very severe watch over its conscience, in order to discriminate with justice and impartiality between the elaborate arguments advanced on either hand by the eloquent representatives of the zamíndár and raiyat seated at this Council Board. We have been told that we have undertaken a great responsibility in promoting a measure of this description. I should be the last person to deny the truth of the assertion. The measure is a momentous one, affecting vast interests, and calculated to produce far-reaching consequences; but I maintain that a far graver responsibility would have weighed upon those who, if their opposition had succeeded, would have stood between the occupancy-raiyat and those rights which every one acknowledges to be his, and which, every one is equally aware, but for this legislation he would have been in the greatest danger of losing."

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Council adjourned to Friday, the 18th March, 1885.

D. FITZPATRICK,

*Secretary to the Govt. of India,
Legislative Department.*

SIMLA;
The 4th May, 1885. }

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
HOME DEPARTMENT.

REVIEW OF THE REGISTRATION REPORTS OF THE SEVERAL PROVINCES FOR THE YEAR 1883-84.

No. $\frac{15}{617-29}$.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India, in the Home Department (Public),—under date Simla, the 22nd April 1885.

READ—

Home Department Resolution No. 12—438-50, dated the 8th March 1884, reviewing the Registration Reports of the several Provinces for the year 1882-83.

Read also—

The Registration Reports of the several Local Governments and Administrations for the year 1883-84.

RESOLUTION.

OBSERVATIONS.—The statement annexed shows for the several Provinces the total number of registrations, the receipts and expenditure of the Registration Department, and the aggregate value of property transferred by registered documents in the years 1881-82 to 1883-84, as well as the proportion of Registration Offices to area and population. The total number of documents registered increased from 1,389,885 in 1882-83 to 1,489,185 in the year under review. The receipts of the Department rose from Rs. 24,58,746 to Rs. 25,67,917, and the expenditure from Rs. 16,31,976 to Rs. 17,02,760. There was thus, compared with the previous year, an advance of 99,800 in the total number of transactions, of Rs. 1,09,171 in the receipts, and of Rs. 70,784 in the expenditure of the Department. The percentage of expenditure on receipts was the same as last year, viz., 66·3.

The registrations affecting immovable and moveable property were as follows:—

	Number of registrations affecting immovable property.			Number of other registrations.	Grand Total.
	Compulsory.	Optional.	Total.		
1882-83	764,763	429,808	1,194,571	195,314	1,389,885
1883-84	815,976	465,596	1,281,572	207,613	1,489,185

The following figures show the aggregate value of property transferred by registered documents during the years 1882-83 and 1883-84:—

	Affecting immovable property.		Affecting moveable property.	Total.
	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.
1882-83	37,72,84,064	4,54,06,714	42,26,90,778	
1883-84	37,46,07,976	6,76,91,583	44,22,99,558	

2. *Madras.*—The Department again did good work during the year under review. There was a substantial advance in the total number of documents registered, being 478,434 in 1883-84 against 435,381 in 1882-83, thus representing an increase of 43,053 instruments, or 9·8 per cent., and 124 per cent. during the last ten years, the total

number of registrations in the year 1874-75 having been 218,087. In the statement given below the transactions under the major heads for the years 1882-83 and 1883-84 are compared :—

	Affecting immoveable property.		Affecting moveable property.	Wills and authorities to adopt.	Total.
	Compulsory.	Optional.			
1882-83 ...	215,953	188,408	30,051	969	435,381
1883-84 ...	232,519	212,041	32,774	1,100	478,434

It will thus be seen that every head contributed to the general increase. Registrations affecting immoveable property advanced, in the case of documents compulsorily registered, by 16,566 transactions, or 7·6 per cent., and in the case of those the registration of which is optional, by 23,633, or 12·5 per cent. The increase in the number of transactions affecting moveable property was 2,723, or 9 per cent. The number of wills registered advanced from 961 to 1,092; the number of authorities to adopt remained the same (8) as last year. The percentage of optional to total registrations for the last five years is, respectively, 44, 47, 49, 50, and 51.

Turning to the nature of the documents entered, it is seen that, with two small exceptions, viz., a decrease from 2,511 to 2,347 of perpetual leases, and from 124 to 76 of certified copies of decrees and orders of Court, there was an increase under all heads over the figures for the previous year. The operations effected during 1882-83 and 1883-84 under some of the more important heads of registration are compared below :—

	Instruments of sale and mortgage affecting immoveable property.		Leases (Book I.)	
	Compulsory.	Optional.	Compulsory.	Optional.
1882-83 ...	161,677	149,264	34,361	22,056
1883-84 ...	172,610	167,772	37,342	24,544

The number of instruments registered affecting the sale and mortgage of properties valued at Rs. 100 and upwards increased by 10,933, or 6·8 per cent. The increase in the operations relating to instruments of the same class affecting properties under Rs. 100 in value was 18,508, or 12·4 per cent. The increase in the total number of leases, both compulsorily and optionally registered, was 5,469, or 9·7 per cent. Deeds of gift advanced from 1,496 instruments to 1,574, or by 5 per cent.

The falling off under the head of perpetual leases was chiefly in South Canara and Salem; in the former place, where more than half the total number of registrations under this head took place, the transactions fell from 1,482 to 1,273, or by 209 documents, and in the latter place by 104. In South Canara the decline appears to be due to the belief that when the owner once leases his land under a perpetual lease, he is debarred for ever after from raising the rent. The decline which occurred in Salem is attributed to the fact that in 1882-83 an unusually large number of perpetual leases were registered owing to the lessees of a certain property having failed to pay their rent, when fresh leases had in consequence to be issued. The advance made in the registration of instruments relating to gifts is likely to continue, as the High Court of Madras have decided upon the precise interpretation to be put upon "settlement," under which head many gifts have hitherto been erroneously classified. As regards registrations in Book IV., the number of deeds of sale, and the number of bonds registered during the year, increased—the former from 1,525 to 1,699, and the latter from 18,742 to 19,424.

The aggregate value of the property affected by the transactions of the year, as evidenced by the documents registered, again fell from 1,215 lakhs of rupees in 1882-83 to 1,187 lakhs of rupees in 1883-84, or by 2·3 per cent. There was a considerable increase in the value of moveable property transferred. The value of such instruments advanced from 86 lakhs of rupees in 1882-83 to 191 lakhs in 1883-84, or by 105 lakhs (122·0 per cent.). This increase is chiefly due to the rise from Rs. 1,30,717 to Rs. 1,01,00,876 of the aggregate value of property transferred under the head "Other documents registered in Book IV." in the North Arcot District—an increase for which no explanation is given. On the other hand, the value of immoveable property affected, fell by 133 lakhs of rupees, or by 11·7 per cent. No importance, however, attaches to this decline, as in 1882-83 the sale of the property belonging to the Madras Irrigation Canal Company added more than 178½ lakhs of rupees to the value of property affected by registrations in Book I.; and this fact accounts also for the decrease of 166 lakhs of rupees, which occurred during the year under review in the value of lands transferred by sales.

The income of the Department rose from Rs. 5,74,710 in 1882-83 to Rs. 6,24,613 in 1883-84, or by 8·6 per cent. The expenditure also increased from Rs. 5,50,353 in the previous year to Rs. 5,93,595 in the year under review, or by 7·8 per cent. The surplus therefore was Rs. 31,018 against Rs. 24,357, and the percentage of expenditure to receipts 95 against 96 in 1882-83.

The revised scale of salaries of Registrars and Sub-Registrars is responsible for almost half of the increase which occurred in the expenditure of the year, the revised scale having been in force during the whole of 1883-84 against six months in 1882-83. Other causes which tended to enhance the disbursements were the opening of five new offices, the substitution of nine Special Sub-Registrars for as many *ex-officio* officers, the payment of a larger percentage of commission to the establishments on the larger collections realized, and the fact that the new establishments employed during the year and those entertained in 1882-83 drew their pay for the whole year in 1883-84. The expenditure on office buildings again rose from Rs. 45,226 in 1882-83 to Rs. 53,909 in the year under notice, the increase of Rs. 8,683 being due to the large outlay upon the new buildings which are being erected in accordance with the plan of having detached accommodation for Registration Offices.

The above figures point to the efficient working of the Department, and to the satisfactory and increasing improvement in the registration work of the Madras Presidency. The proportion, however, of one office to every 445 square miles of country, and to every 98,823 persons of the population, shows that there is room for further development. This is admitted by the Local Government, and the work of opening new offices, thereby affording greater facilities for registration, is proceeding in every direction throughout the Presidency. The offices still in charge of *ex-officio* officers will, it is hoped, before long be transferred to special officers.

3. *Bombay*.—There was again an advance in the total number of registrations, which stood at 97,342 in 1883-84 against 84,903 in 1882-83, thus representing an increase of 12,439 documents, or 14·65 per cent. Compulsory registrations amounted to 72,095 transactions in the year under review against 62,622 in the previous year, and optional registrations, relating both to immoveable and moveable property, to 25,247 transactions against 22,281, the percentage of increase

under each head being 15·12 and 13·31, respectively. The optional registrations effected were 25·9 per cent. of the total registrations against 26·3 in the previous year. The total number of instruments registered during the year is the largest ever reached in the Bombay Presidency, except in the year 1878-79, i. e., before the Deccan Agriculturists Relief Act, 1879, came into operation, when 97,559 documents were entered.

The work done by the Department during the two years, 1882-83 and 1883-84, under the chief heads may be compared thus :—

	Affecting immoveable property.		Total.	Affecting moveable property.	Wills.	Grand Total.
	Compulsory.	Optional.				
1882-83 ...	62,622	17,643	80,265	3,910	728	84,903
1883-84 ...	72,095	20,303	92,398	4,147	797	97,342

The total registrations increased in every district except in Bombay, Thana, and Satara, the falling off in those districts being very slight, viz., 176, 376 and 69 documents, respectively. The decline in Bombay was due to the fact that in the previous year an abnormally large number of documents of certain classes were registered. In Thana, the decrease was neutralized by the increase of 1,037 instruments which occurred in Kolaba, to which district two registration sub-districts were during the year transferred from the Thana District. The plan of substituting special officers in the place for *ex-officio* Registrars appears thus far to have proved a success. There are still 18 offices worked by *ex-officio* Registrars, viz., 15 in Sind, 1 in each of the Bombay and Nasik Districts, and 1 at Aden. The system of registration by a peripatetic agency was tried in four districts, but does not appear to have been altogether satisfactory in its results. It is observed that the Inspector General promises a special report on this subject, and the Governor General in Council would be glad to receive a copy of this report in due course with a copy of any orders which may be passed thereon by the Bombay Government.

Under the head of compulsory registration, deeds of mortgage of immoveable property of the value of Rs. 100 and upwards increased from 27,551 documents in 1882-83 to 31,401 in 1883-84, or by 13·9 per cent., while the aggregate value of the property affected by these documents increased from 143½ lakhs to 173½, or by 21·3 per cent. Deeds of sale of the same value rose from 23,749 documents in the previous year to 26,556 in the year under review, or by 11·8 per cent., and their value from 184½ to 188½ lakhs (21·9 per cent.). Perpetual leases increased from 1,755 to 2,033 (15·8 per cent.), and leases, for terms exceeding one year, from 5,756 to 6,232 (8·2 per cent.). The transactions falling under the head of "Other instruments" relating to immoveable property rose by 2,084 documents, or 4·8 per cent. The operations under this head include notices of relinquishment of land of the value of Rs. 100 and upwards. The question whether these notices, required under Section 74 of the Bombay Land Revenue Code, should not, in the interest of cultivators, be removed from the operation of Section 17 of the Registration Act, and thereby be exempted from registration, was lately considered by the Government of India, and it was decided that in amending the Registration Act provision should be made for exempting such notices from registration.

Turning next to optional registrations relating to immoveable property, the registration both of deeds of sale and of mortgages of less value than Rs. 100, increased—the former from 8,857 instruments to 10,134 (14·4 per cent.), and the latter from 5,984 instruments

to 6,863 (14·6 per cent.). The proportion of optionally to compulsorily registrable documents relating to immoveable property remained about the same (22 per cent.) as last year. In remarking on the increase in the operations of the Department during the year, the Inspector General assigns as the main cause the large number of marriages contracted in consequence of the impending Hindu calendar year of 360 days, when it is held that marriages should not take place. On this point the Government of Bombay makes the following observations:—

The Inspector General considers that the chief cause of the almost universal increase is to be found in the large number of marriages which took place among the Hindu population during the year under review. As these ceremonies necessarily involve a large amount of borrowing and lending, the explanation seems reasonable. In Khandesh it is reported that the damage done to the cotton crops by late rains of October 1883 compelled many cultivators to borrow money, and a similar result is attributed to the damage caused by the rains to houses in Ahmednagar, and in Ratnagiri to the ravages of locusts. In the latter district and in Kanara the settlements which have lately been effected are said to have resulted in the execution of a greater number of leases and mortgages.

The rise in the number of leases for terms exceeding one year registered during the year is attributed in part to a ruling of the High Court in 1882, that such leases are exempt from stamp duty when the annual rent is less than Rs. 100.

As regards registrations in Book IV., the number of bonds registered increased from 888 to 1,071 (20·6 per cent.), while miscellaneous documents fell from 2,078 transactions to 2,059. As in the previous year, no authorities to adopt were registered. The number of wills registered increased from 728 to 797 (9·4 per cent.).

In accordance with a suggestion made by the Government of India the Inspector General is collecting statistics from the records of his department bearing on the price of land in the Presidency proper in successive years, with the object of furnishing precise information on the question whether a depreciation in the value of land has had a prejudicial effect on compulsory registration. The result of the Inspector General's investigation into this matter is awaited by the Government of India with interest. The question regarding the time allowed under Section 34 of the Registration Act for the admission of documents to registration with or without fine will be considered in connection with the amendment of the Act.

During the year under review 682 Parsi marriages were registered under the Parsi Marriage Registration Act, against 618 in the previous year—only one marriage was registered under Act III. of 1872.

The following figures compare the aggregate value of the property affected by the transactions during 1882-83 and 1883-84:—

	Immoveable property.		Moveable property.		Total.	
	Rs.		Rs.		Rs.	
1882-83	...	4,78,42,817	22,30,897		5,00,73,214	
1883-84	...	5,12,23,191	25,81,403		5,38,04,594	

The average registration fees for the different classes of documents during the two years were as follows:—

		Optional.											
		Compulsory.			Immoveable.			Miscellaneous.			All classes.		
		Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.
1882-83	...	2	2	6	0	7	8	1	13	9	1	12	8
1883-84	...	2	1	6	0	6	7	1	11	11	1	11	11